

30th September 2026

Eastbourne District General Hospital

Kings Drive
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 2UD

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

Further to your recent request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000, I now set out our answers to your specific questions, and any clarifications sought and provided, as follows:

1. How many patients were treated by the rheumatology department in the past 3 months with the following:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| • Tocilizumab – for any disease | 138 |
| • Tocilizumab for rheumatoid arthritis (RA) only | 124 |
| • Tocilizumab for giant cell arteritis (GCA) only | 0 |

2. How many patients were treated by the ophthalmology department (for any disease) in the past 3 months with Tocilizumab?

0.

3. How many patients were treated in A&E in the past 3 months for giant cell arteritis (GCA) with Tocilizumab?

0.

4. In the past 3 months, how many patients with a primary diagnosis of GCA (ICD10 codes M31.5 or M31.6) were:

- **Admitted as an inpatient**

A total of 23 patients were admitted as inpatients with a primary diagnosis of GCA.

Please note that individual patients may have had more than one inpatient admission episode during the reporting period.

- **Treated in A&E**

There were 2 emergency admissions with a primary diagnosis of GCA.

I trust this information is helpful in its detail or explanation however, if you are dissatisfied with the response, then you have the right to request an internal review. If you wish to seek an internal review, please write to the Freedom of Information Team at esh-tr.foi@nhs.net

quoting the above FOI reference number, within 40 working days. Please note the Trust is not obliged to accept a request for an internal review after this time period.

Yours faithfully

Freedom of Information (FOI) Team
East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
0300 131 4716
Core Hours of Business: Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm