

FOI 1691

12.06.2023

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

Please may I request the following information from your health board. For ease of collation, the information could be provided in the tables provided after each question.

1. The numbers total of patients who have been prescribed antidepressants in the each of the years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 so far.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 so far
Total patients prescribed antidepressants	1712	1713	1601	1815	1762	790

2. The number of patients under the age of 18 who have been prescribed antidepressants in each of the same years.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 so far
Total patients under 18 prescribed antidepressants	12	35	58	100	199	160

Data collated from a medication report generated from PARIS for young people currently open to SHSCT CAMHS.

3. The total number of patients under the age of 18 prescribed each of the following types of antidepressants in each of the same years

	Under 18s 2018	Under 18s 2019	Under 18s 2020	Under 18s 2021	Under 18s 2022	Under 18s 2023 so far
SSRIs	0	34	58	99	198	160
SNRIs	0	0	0	0	0	0
NASSAs	0	0	0	0	0	0
TCAs	0	0	0	0	0	0
SARIs	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAOIs	0	<5	0	<5	<5	0

Data collated from a medication report generated from PARIS for young people currently open to SHSCT CAMHS. Sertraline is the most commonly prescribed SSRI at 61%, Fluoxetine is the second most commonly prescribed at 35%.

The Trust has a legal duty to protect patient confidentiality and, in line with this duty, the figure <5 has been provided where figures are very low. This is because of the potential risk of identification of an individual. In reaching this decision the Trust has taken into account the small geographical area which the Trust serves and the sensitivity of the information requested. In addition the Trust has taken into account the fact that all information disclosed in response to an FOI is disclosed to the 'world at large' and is published on the Trust website.

S 40 (2) (third party information) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 has been applied to exempt the redacted information from disclosure. The Trust does not consider the disclosure of the redacted information to be fair to the individuals concerned as there is the potential risk of identification of an individual(s) which they would not expect, and which would therefore breach the fairness element of the first principle of the Data Protection Act 2018.

4. The number of patients under 18 who have been prescribed antidepressants in each of the same years, specifically as part of the treatment of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and related symptoms.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 so far
Total patients under 18 prescribed antidepressants as part of treatment for OCD						

This information is not centrally recorded. We are unable to comment on the number of patients under 18 who have been prescribed antidepressants specifically as part of the treatment of obsessive compulsive disorder as we have no way of collecting medication data for specific diagnoses.

5. The number of patients under 18 who have begun Talking Therapies ('psychotherapy') in each of the same years.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 so far
Total patients under 18 begun talking therapies						

This information is not centrally recorded. We are unable to comment on the number of patients under 18 who have engaged in talking therapies (psychotherapy) as we have no way of collecting this specific data. Young people referred to CAMHS undergo a comprehensive assessment and a collaborative treatment plan agreed if required. The first stage of a treatment plan would encompass talking therapy, medication may also be considered in adjunct to this.

Antidepressants in this instance refers to any of the following classifications of drugs: SSRIs, SNRIs, NASSAs, TCAs, SARIs, MAOIs.

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