

Title: Early Access to Medicines Scheme (EAMS)

Reference Number: RDF1435-23

Date of Response: 27/04/23

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

Under the freedom of information act 2000, I'm requesting the following information on compassionate use medicines:

- 1) *How many patients at your trust have been supplied medicines approved through the Early Access to Medicines Scheme (EAMS) each year between April 2014 and April 2023?*

The Trust has considered your request, however to provide you with the information requested would require the manual extraction and manipulation of information from various sources. The current and historic information is not held in a manner that is easily reportable as requested, the majority of applications were in written format requiring a manual review of individual records.

To carry out this work would exceed the appropriate cost limit as set out in Section 12 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and is therefore exempt.

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 12 (1) and defined in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004, a public authority is not obliged to comply with a request for information if it estimates that the cost of complying would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit of £450 represents the estimated cost of one person spending two and a half days in determining whether the Trust holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting that information.

*In a bid to assist your request under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we have provided the last 12 months of data covering the date range April 2022 – March 2023.

Answer: *4. Covering the date range April 2022 – March 2023.

- 2) *How many requests has your trust made to pharmaceutical companies for access to medicines offered through a company-led 'compassionate use' or 'free of charge' scheme each year between April 2014 and April 2023?*

Answer: *2. Covering the date range April 2022 – March 2023.

a. *How many patients have received treatment with unlicensed medicines obtained this way each year between April 2014 and April 2023?*

Answer: *43. Covering the date range April 2022 – March 2023.

3) *How many requests have clinicians at your trust submitted to pharmaceutical companies for access to an unlicensed medicine to treat patients each year between April 2014 and April 2023, outside of a company-led scheme?*

Answer: *10. Covering the date range April 2022 – March 2023.

a. *How many patients have received treatment with unlicensed medicines obtained this way each year between April 2014 and April 2023?*

Answer: *10. Covering the date range April 2022 – March 2023.