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www.gov.uk/mhra

22nd November 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

FOI 23/814

Thank you of your email dated 24th October 2023, where you requested:

- 1) *How many fulltime-equivalent members were there in the MHRA Pharmacovigilance Team in January 2020 and how many members are there now in October 2023? Are there currently vacancies in the team?*
- 2) *What qualifications do members of the Team currently hold (October 2023)? For example, how many hold doctorates / masters degrees / undergraduate degrees? What qualifications were held by the Team in January 2020?*
- 3) *Do the members of the Team currently (in 2023) engage in lab-based work? For example, do they themselves have the facilities and expertise to undertake quality control of vaccines? If not, where do they obtain data from to ensure quality control and to monitor compliance? Was this situation the same in 2020, 2021 and 2022?*

In order to fully respond to your request, we require some clarification of the requested information.

While some of the team names within the Safety & Surveillance (S&S) group previously included the term “pharmacovigilance”, following the Agency transformation this is no longer the case. Please see the organogram at the link below for an overview of our new structure:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6527ccb22548ca000dddf1c8/MHRA_Senior_leaders_hip_structure_Oct_23.pdf

Please note that the S&S group includes the following teams, some of which we think you may be interested in:

Team Name	Activities including but not limited to:
Vigilance and Regulatory Advice Team	Management of queries and Yellow Card reports
Adverse Incidents and Signal Analysis Teams	Query response writing, processing Yellow Cards, signal detection activities



Haemovigilance Team	Monitoring of blood products
Benefit/ Risk Evaluation Teams (10 teams each of which cover different therapeutic areas)	Risk management activities for medicines and devices within their therapeutic area, signal detection for products subject to additional monitoring.

Please can you indicate specifically for which teams/ areas you would like to request information?

Regarding your second question, this is related to the clarity sought on question one, we can only provide this information for the clarified roles if the data is recorded. Please note that this information is not necessarily recorded for all staff so may not include details of all staff qualifications.

When you provide further clarification, this will be dealt with as a new request.

Yours sincerely,

FOI Team,
Safety & Surveillance Group

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