



Medicines & Healthcare products  
Regulatory Agency

10 South Colonnade  
Canary Wharf  
London  
E14 4PU  
United Kingdom  
[gov.uk/mhra](https://www.gov.uk/mhra)

[REDACTED]

23 November 2023

**FOI 23/832**

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of 26 October where you have asked:

*“My understanding is that a decision for marketing/safety on the above drug for Alopecia Areata was to be mid-2023. Approved already in the US & Europe, already helping those including children with this devastating condition. I can find no information or update online for the UK?! Please advise.”*

We are pleased to inform you that the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) authorised Litfulo (ritlecitinib) on 1 November 2023 for severe alopecia areata in patients 12 years and older. The press release on the authorisation of this medicine is online here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mhra-authorises-litfulo-as-a-treatment-for-severe-alopecia-areata-in-adults-and-adolescents-12-years-and-older>

For more information on Litfulo’s authorisation in the UK, please see the Summary of Product Characteristics or Patient Information Leaflet available on the MHRA products website. The MHRA also publishes Public Assessment Reports following the authorisation of a medicine and this will be published in due course.

Please be aware we publish FOI replies and these are redacted at the following link of our website below and if you wish to consult with companies or the customer for redactions then please do and let us know.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/freedom-of-information-responses-from-the-mhra-2021>

If you disagree with how we have interpreted the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in answering your request, you can ask for an internal review. Please reply to this email, within two months of this reply, specifying that you would like an Internal Review to be carried out.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you were to remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you would have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please bear in mind that the Information Commissioner will not normally review our handling of your request unless you have first contacted us to conduct an internal review.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted online via an electronic form:  
<https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

Or by writing to:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

**MHRA Customer Experience Centre**  
Communications and engagement team  
Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency  
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