

FOI 24/025

MHRA Customer Services <MHRACustomerServices@mhra.gov.uk>

Mon 05/02/2024 18:43

To

Cc:MHRA Customer Services <MHRACustomerServices@mhra.gov.uk>

**FOI 24/025**

Dear

Thank you for your email of 8<sup>th</sup> January where you have asked:

I would like the following data on Ozempic prescriptions in the UK, for the period between January 8, 2021 to the current date.

Please send me:

1. The number of Ozempic prescriptions that have been given out in the UK.
2. The reasons why these prescriptions have been given out.

In terms of question 1,

The MHRA uses various data sources to estimate the extent of prescribing and dispensing of medicines across the UK. The MHRA is not an owner or custodian of these data sources and does not hold the full extent of the data you have asked for.

However, we can advise that the Prescription Cost Analysis (PCA) databases are available to the public to download and are published separately for each country. The PCA data contain an analysis of all NHS prescriptions dispensed in the community, i.e. by community pharmacists and appliance contractors, dispensing doctors and prescriptions submitted by prescribing doctors for items personally administered in the relevant country. The data does not cover drugs dispensed in hospitals including mental health trusts, nor drugs dispensed against a private prescription.

The weblinks to PCA data for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are available here:

England: [Prescription Cost Analysis - England | NHSBSA](#)

Scotland: [Dispenser payments and prescription cost analysis - Financial year 2022 to 2023 - Dispenser payments and prescription cost analysis - Publications - Public Health Scotland](#)

Wales: [Primary care prescriptions | GOV.WALES](#)

Northern Ireland: [Prescription Cost Analysis - Business Services Organisation \(BSO\) Website \(hscni.net\)](#)

Under the FOIA, this means that section 21 of the Act applies, as the information for this question is available by other means.

For question 2

We have not extracted any data in the past looking at indications in any prescribing/dispensing data. Therefore, we do not hold indication data for this drug.

We hope that the links provided are useful for you.

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 at:

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

Yours sincerely

**MHRA Customer Experience Centre**

Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency  
10 South Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London E14 4PU

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From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 8, 2024 6:02 PM  
To: MHRA Customer Services <MHRACustomerServices@mhra.gov.uk>  
Subject: Freedom of Information Request

Dear Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency,

I am writing to make an open government request for all information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I would like the following data on Ozempic prescriptions in the UK, for the period between January 8, 2021 to the current date.

Please send me:

1. The number of Ozempic prescriptions that have been given out in the UK.
2. The reasons why these prescriptions have been given out.

Please could you provide the information in the form of a spreadsheet (csv or xls) if possible.

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits (Section 12), it would be great if you could provide advice and assistance, (Section 16 obligations of the Act), as to how I can refine my request.

Generally, if you can identify any ways that my request can be refined, I would be very grateful.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me and I will be happy to clarify what I am asking for.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to your response.

Best wishes,



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