

07 March 2025

Belfast H&SC Trust

Usage of high-cost drugs in ophthalmology

1. For the 4 months from September to December 2024, how many unique* patients received the following intra-vitreous treatments for any eye condition:

Aflibercept	2370
Bevacizumab	<5
Brolucizumab	0
Dexamethasone	34
Faricimab	1037
Ranibizumab– Lucentis	352
Ranibizumab Biosimilar	<5

*Please count a patient only once for any treatment, regardless of how many injections or implants they may have received

2. For the patients above, how many were new to intra-vitreous treatment? Please provide the patient numbers by the treatments listed below, excluding patients who previously had received any of these treatments.

Aflibercept	105
Bevacizumab	<5
Brolucizumab	0
Dexamethasone	<5
Faricimab	136
Ranibizumab – Lucentis	<5
Ranibizumab Biosimilar	0

We are unable to provide an exact figure where numbers are very low. To provide this level of information would reduce numbers to discoverable limits where individuals could be identifiable. This is exempt from release under section 40(2) Personal Information relating to a third party, of the FOI Act. This information would be unfair to the individuals to release this information. Disclosure would constitute a breach of the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018.