

31 March 2026

Head and Neck Cancer (Squamous Cell Carcinoma)

1. Does your Trust treat patients for head and neck cancer (Squamous cell carcinoma)? If no, which Trust do you refer patients onto for treatment?

Yes

2. Within your Trust, how many patients have been treated in the past 3 months for head and neck cancer (squamous cell carcinoma) with the following?

- **Surgery only**

Unable to provide this information at present due to ongoing Encompass system issues - work is underway to resolve this (this is due to the inability to input cancer staging information for a number of months since Encompass system go-live, but this is now being rolled-out to enable this information to be collated going forward).

- **Radiotherapy only**

Histology is not captured in ARIA

Pall radiotherapy:	18
Primary radical radiotherapy alone:	46
Primary radical chemotherapy/ radiotherapy	34
Adjuvant radiotherapy:	14

- **Surgery + Radiotherapy**

Unable to provide this information at present due to ongoing Encompass issues - work is underway to resolve this (due to the inability to input cancer staging information for a number of months since go-live, but this is now being rolled-out to enable this information to be collated going forward)

• Carboplatin (only or in combination with 5-FU)	5
• Cisplatin (only or in combination with 5-FU)	0
• Cetuximab with/without chemotherapy	0
• Cetuximab with radiotherapy	0
• Pembrolizumab monotherapy	13
• Pembrolizumab with chemotherapy	0
• Nivolumab	9
• Docetaxel (only or in combination with 5-FU)	0
• Fluorouracil (5FU) monotherapy	0
• Any other chemotherapy (without radiotherapy)	5
• Any other chemotherapy (with radiotherapy)	19

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3. Could you please provide the number of patients treated in the past 3 months with the following agents for metastatic head and neck cancer (squamous cell carcinoma)?

- **Cetuximab with/without chemotherapy**
- **Pembrolizumab monotherapy**
- **Pembrolizumab with chemotherapy**
- **Nivolumab**
- **Docetaxel (only or in combination with 5-FU)**
- **Any other chemotherapy (without radiotherapy)**
- **Any other chemotherapy (with radiotherapy)**

Not possible to provide this information as it would take more than 18 hours work to distinguish between cell type or metastatic disease.

Belfast Trust considers that the cost of retrieving the information would be above the 'Appropriate Limit', as defined by the Freedom of Information Act under Section 12. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit. The limit has been specified as £450 for public authorities such as Belfast Trust. This represents the cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.

4. How many patients who received Pembrolizumab for head and neck cancer (squamous cell carcinoma) in the last 3 months, received:

All head and neck

- **Treatment every 3 weeks (200mg, Q3W) 9**
- **Treatment every 6 weeks (400mg, Q6W) <5**

Use of <5 (less than five): We are unable to provide an exact figure - exempt from release under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act - Personal Information relating to a third party, as the small numbers involved could make patients personally identifiable. Disclosure would constitute a breach of the principles of the General Data Protection Regulation 2018.

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5. Does your Trust participate in any clinical trials for head and neck cancer? If so, please provide the trial details and number of patients who are taking part.

Yes – see detail in table below.

Project site name	Project Short title	Project Full title	Project site status	Recruited (org)
Belfast City Hospital	Modi-1 in Patients with Breast, Head & Neck, Ovarian or Renal Cancer	A Phase 1/2, Multicentre, Open-Label Study of Modi-1 in Patients with Breast, Head and Neck, Ovarian, or Renal Cancer	Open	<5
Belfast City Hospital	A Phase 2 study of BNT113 in HPV16+ HNSCC patients expressing PD-L1	An open label Phase II randomized trial of BNT113 in combination with pembrolizumab versus pembrolizumab monotherapy as a first line therapy in patients with unresectable recurrent, or metastatic Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma (HNSCC) which is positive for human papilloma virus 16 (HPV16+) and expresses PD-L1.	Open	<5
Belfast City Hospital	ADePT-DDR Trial	Accelerating the Development and implementation of Personalised Treatments of DNA Damage Response agents and radiotherapy +/- immunotherapy for head and neck squamous cell cancer	Open	0