NHS Tayside has now considered your request dated 12 April 2019.

NHS Tayside wishes to advise you that there are exemptions applicable to the information requested. Please refer to the exemptions section of this correspondence.

**Extract from Request**

“For financial years 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19:

- How much has NHS Tayside spent on the administration and application of the chemotherapy treatment FEC-T? Please break this down by year.
- How many patients were administered with the chemotherapy treatment FEC-T in NHS Tayside? Please break this down by year.
- How many times was the FEC-T treatment administered in total for the Tayside region? Please break this down by year.
- What is the average cost per patient for FEC-T treatments, covering the cost of medicine and subsequent application of the treatment to patients?”

**Response**

1. Information not held. NHS Tayside are unable to provide yearly chemotherapy drug costs for the drugs included in the FEC-T regimen due to all of these drugs being used in other regimens both for breast cancer and for other cancers. Drugs are not costed to individual patients.

   Information not held. NHS Tayside is also unable to provide administration costs or supportive treatment costs for the FEC-T regimen. All patients receive different supportive treatment depending on their individual circumstances.

2. Please see the following for patients administered with the chemotherapy treatment FEC-T in NHS Tayside:

   - 2016/17 – 129 patients
   - 2017/18 – 104 patients
   - 2018/19 – 100 patients

3. FEC-T is 2 different regimens given sequentially (FEC and Docetaxel). Depending on individual patient circumstances and the time of treatment allocation, the whole FEC-T regimen is administered across two different financial years, or not all 6 cycles are given. With this in mind, the answer is given for the FEC regimen and the Docetaxel regimen separately:

   - 2016/17 – FEC 314 cycles, Docetaxel 270 cycles
   - 2017/18 – FEC 248 cycles, Docetaxel 213 cycles
   - 2018/19 – FEC 241 cycles, Docetaxel 194 cycles
4. Average cost of the chemotherapy drugs in a whole course of treatment of FEC-T for a patient with body surface area (BSA) 1.8m² = £118.87

This includes:
3 cycles of FEC –
5-fluorouracil 500mg/m² for 1 day
Epirubicin 75mg/m² for 1 day
Cyclophosphamide 500mg/m² for 1 day
Followed by
3 cycles of Docetaxel 80mg/m² for 1 day

Information not held. NHS Tayside are unable to provide administration costs or supportive treatment costs for the FEC-T regimen. All patients receive different supportive treatment depending on their individual circumstances.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Ref.</th>
<th>FOISA Exemption Applied</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IGTFOISA6194</td>
<td>Section 17 – Information not held (QS 1&amp;4)</td>
<td>NHS Tayside does not hold the information requested.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Under section 20 (1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Tayside has dealt with your request, you have a right to request a review of our actions and decisions in relation to your request, and you have a right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commission.

A request for an internal review must be made in writing no later than forty working days from receipt of this response and addressed to:

Tayside NHS Board Secretary
Tayside NHS Board Headquarters
Ninewells Hospital & Medical School
Dundee
DD1 9SY
If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision. The Scottish Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Scottish Information Commissioner  
Kinburn Castle  
Doubledykes Road  
St Andrews  
Fife  
KY16 9DS

Or via the online appeal service: [www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal)

If you have any queries about this correspondence, please contact:

Information Governance Team  
Maryfield House  
30 Mains Loan  
Dundee  
DD4 7BT

Telephone - 01382 424413  
E-mail: [informationgovt@tayside.nhs.net](mailto:informationgovt@tayside.nhs.net)

Information Governance  
NHS Tayside  
7 May 2019