NHS Tayside has now considered your request dated 2 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 (numbers added by NHS Tayside for ease of reference)

1. “How many breast cancer patients were given a lower dosage of FEC-T than the standard level of 100mg adopted elsewhere in the UK?
2. How many of these patients were given a dosage as low as 75mg of FEC-T?
3. What kind of risks and/or negative impacts may this reduced dosage have had on NHS Tayside patients compared to elsewhere?
4. How many of the affected patients have so far been offered an appointment with the oncologist?
5. How many of these patients have had an appointment with an oncologist?
6. Was there any cost saving involved, whether deliberate or incidental, as a result of giving patients a lower dosage? If so, how much was saved?
7. What practices and processes have been changed in light of the report and recommendations of Healthcare Improvement Scotland in relation to breast cancer care in NHS Tayside? What changes have been made?
8. Please send as many details as are available in relation to the action plan created by NHS Tayside to address the recommendations made by HIS, including what the action plan is and how this is progressing.
9. Why were NHS Tayside patients not informed of the difference in practice relation to other NHS boards within the region and other parts of Scotland?
10. What were the reasons for NHS Tayside refusing to endorse the CMG with a higher dosage of FEC-T, against the views of NHS Highland and Grampian clinicians?
11. After an audit was held on the side effects of patients given 100mg per m2 docetaxel, why was the same audit not carried out to measure the impact of the lower dosage?"

Response

1. Between 01/12/16 and 31/03/19 the number of patients planned to be given Docetaxel at a dose of less than 100mg/m² was 169.
2. Of these patients 80 were planned to be given a dose of 75mg/m² Docetaxel.
3. The risk assessment was given by an external panel, which was commissioned by the Chief Medical Officer.
4. 287 patients have been offered an appointment with the oncologist.
5. All patients who wanted an appointment with an oncologist have been seen.
6. No, this was not related to cost savings.
7. A new Cancer Medicines Guideline (CMG) has been put forward, which mirrors other centres in Scotland. A consent requirement that reflects the new CMG is in place.
8. NHS Tayside is currently implementing all the actions associated with the five HIS recommendations. A final Action Plan requires to be submitted to HIS by Monday, July 1.
9. Information not held.
10. Information not held.
11. Information not held.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Ref.</th>
<th>FOISA Exemption Applied</th>
<th>Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IGTFOISA6156</td>
<td>Section 17 – Information not held. (Qs 9,10 &amp; 11)</td>
<td>NHS Tayside does not hold the information requested.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002
Response to correspondence dated 02 April 2019
Request: Breast Cancer Patients given a lower dosage of FEC-T
Applicant: Media
Reference: IGFOISA6156

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
Kinhurn Castle
Doubledykes Road
St Andrews
Fife
KY16 9DS

Or via the online appeal service: www.itstopublicknowledge.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: informationgovernance.tayside@nhs.net

Information Governance
NHS Tayside
21 June 2019