



12 July 2017

Dear ,

ATISN 11351 Anti-depressant prescribing to under-18s

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, received on 20 June. You asked for information about:

1. Information from 2012 – 2017 about the number of patients in Wales who received antidepressant drug prescriptions for the age ranges below:
 - 13-18
 - 7-12
 - 6 or younger
 - Breakdown by health board (if available)

Welsh Government does not hold prescribing data by age. Data on characteristics of those issued prescriptions are held within GP systems.

The following information may be relevant to your request:

The Welsh Government commissioned research by Swansea University regarding trends in primary-care antidepressant prescribing to children and young people. This used data that were available through the Secure Anonymised Information Linkage Databank (SAIL, <https://saildatabank.com/>) held by Swansea University. The report is available from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5122314/>

In October 2015 a Welsh Health Circular was issued regarding the prescribing of antidepressants for children and adolescents. This can be accessed at: <http://gov.wales/docs/dhss/publications/151009whc48en.pdf>

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information



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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Officer at: Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ or email: FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

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

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,