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Ref No: 15/130

14th February 2015

Dear Ms Ratjova,

Thank you for your email of 17th March where you requested:

- 1. Under the Freedom of Information Act, I request information relating to ANY reported adverse vaccine reactions between January 2005 and now.*
- 2. I would like to know the name of each vaccine and the disease (s) it offers protection against.*
- 3. I wish to know the exact numbers of reported adverse vaccine reactions and please cite how many of those reported were serious and how many were not considered serious.*
- 4. I wish to know the total number of reported adverse vaccine reactions between January 2005 and now.*
- 5. I wish to know the age groups for every vaccine reaction if possible or how many of those reported were children under 4, children between 10 and 18 years of age and adults over the age of 18.*

From our preliminary assessment, it is clear that we will not be able to answer your request without further clarification. Under section 1(3) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), a public authority need not comply with a request unless any further information, reasonably required to locate the information, is supplied. If a request is too broad or general in nature, then public authorities have a duty to provide advice and assistance to the applicant in order to focus the request.

Section 12 of the Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 24 working hours in determining whether the department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information.

We estimate that it will take us in excess of 24 working hours to determine appropriate material and locate, retrieve and extract the information in reference to your request. Therefore, your request will not be processed further.

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including any dates or period of time relevant to the information required.

To be helpful, information that we could provide within section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act would be:

- Total number of ADR reports in association with a vaccine between 01/01/2005 and today's date
- Total number of ADR reports in association with a vaccine that are considered serious and those that are considered non-serious between 01/01/2005 and today's date
- Total number of ADR reports in association with a vaccine between 01/01/2005 and today's date in children under the age of 4, between 10 and 18, and in adults 19+.

If you feel like the above information would be helpful to you, please request in a new Freedom Of Information request.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

FOI Team

Vigilance and Risk Management of Medicines Division