



Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

MHRA Central Freedom of
Information Team
10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 4PU

foi.request@mhra.gov.uk

[MHRA Website](https://www.mhra.gov.uk)

Our Ref: FOI2025/00413

19 May 2025

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 23 April. You wrote:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting the following:

- *A complete list and summary of all documented side effects, adverse reactions, or complications associated with the anthrax vaccine administered by or on behalf of the UK government or military, covering the years 1990 - 2024.*
- *Any internal reports, memos, or safety assessments related to the vaccine's safety profile.*

Please provide this information in electronic format. If any part of this request is unclear or too broad, I would appreciate your assistance in refining it.

MHRA Response

We can neither confirm nor deny we hold information falling within the description specified in your request under section 12(2) of the Freedom of Information Act, as to do so would exceed the cost limit.

This is because we estimate the cost of checking if we hold the requested information or not would exceed the cost limit of £600 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004. This represents the estimated cost of at least one person spending 3½ working days (equivalent to 24 staff-hours) in determining whether the Agency holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting it.

Under Section 12(2) of the Fol Act the Agency is not therefore obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing it further. The reason being that it would take more than 24 staff hours to go through all paper and electronic records to retrieve and extract the requested information.

Under Section 16 of the Fol Act we should help you narrow your request so that it may fall beneath the cost limit. As such, we would suggest that you significantly narrow down the date range for your request and/ or refine the request from all correspondence to specific documents.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team
Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing foi.request@mhra.gov.uk or by writing to: MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team, 10 South, Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London, E14 4PU

Any request for an internal review must be received by us within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please note we are not obliged to provide a review if it is requested after more than 40 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Website: [ICO Contact Information](#) or telephone 0303 123 1113.

Re-use of our information

The MHRA information supplied in response to your request is subject to Crown copyright. Information created by the MHRA which is disclosed under the Freedom of Information Act is made available for re-use under the Open Government Licence (OGL) v3.0, except where this is otherwise stated. There are some restrictions on re-use under the OGL and these can be viewed here:

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>