

08/12/2022

NN-ICB/22/112

Dear Requestor

RE: Freedom of Information Request

With reference to your request for information I can confirm in accordance with Section 1 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 that we partially hold the information that you have requested. A response to each part of your request is below.

In the request you asked:

1. Are there any internal documents or guidelines that restrict the prescribing of liquid antidepressants?

No, any recommendations for each product are listed within the formulary medication entry. This information is publicly available via <https://www.nottinghamshireformulary.nhs.uk>

2. Do you have any guidance for prescribers regarding tapering of antidepressants? If so, could you provide a copy of the relevant documents.

Yes, this information is publicly available via <https://www.nottsapc.nhs.uk/media/1628/primary-care-guide-to-antidepressants.pdf>

3. Do you use any prescribing decision support software, or other tools such as PMR system searches, which identify prescribing of liquid antidepressants and recommend a switch to other formulations?

No.

4. Do you engage in any proactive correspondence with practices to encourage other formulations over liquid formulations?

Yes. We use Optimise Rx to encourage cost effective prescribing choices and have this guidance document https://www.nottsapc.nhs.uk/media/1300/current_specials-a-z-notts.pdf which applies to all places except Bassetlaw Place-Based Partnership (PCP). Bassetlaw PCP also uses Optimise Rx to encourage cost effective prescribing choices, however this does not include the above document

5. I have also found no mention of Paroxetine, Fluvoxamine and Duloxetine on the formulary. Am I right to assume this will be a non-formulary item even though it is not listed on the non-formulary list?

Information relating to Paroxetine, Fluvoxamine and Duloxetine can be found on the APC Joint Formulary website using the links below. Both Fluvoxamine and Paroxetine are listed under Non-Formulary Items.

[Duloxetine](#)

[Paroxetine](#)

[Fluvoxamine](#)

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) have an internal review procedure through which you can raise any concerns you might have. Further details of this procedure can be obtained by contacting Lucy Branson, Associate Director of Governance via lucy.branson@nhs.net or by writing to FOI Team at NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB, Sir John Robinson House, Sir John Robinson Way, Arnold, Daybrook, Nottingham, NG5 6DA.

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), who will consider whether the organisation has complied with its obligations under the Act and can require the organisation to remedy any problems. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to:

FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 123 1113 or report a concern via <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information (FOI) Officer on behalf of *NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board*

notts.foi@nhs.net

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence \(OGL\)](#) a request to re-use is not required, but the license conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing (email will suffice) to the FOI Lead via notts.foi@nhs.net. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.