

07/01/2025

NN-ICB/24-1027

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your original request for information, received on 12 December 2024, and for your updated request, received on 17 December 2024, regarding medicines optimisation. We have processed your request in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Under the FOIA, public authorities like ours are required to respond to requests for information within 20 working days. In response to your request, I can confirm that we do hold the information requested.

Please find below our response to your request:

1. *A list of the national medicines optimisation opportunities the ICB has been delivering in 2024/25.*
 - Addressing problematic polypharmacy
 - Addressing low priority prescribing – ongoing,
 - Improving equitable adoption of the most clinically and cost-effective medicines
 - Obtaining secondary care medicines in line with NHS England commercial medicines framework agreements
 - Standardising product formulations of aseptically compounded medicines
 - Using best value biologic medicines in line with NHS England commissioning recommendations.
 - Addressing inappropriate antidepressant prescribing
 - Appropriate prescribing and supply of blood glucose and ketone meters, and testing strips and lancets
 - Identifying patients with atrial fibrillation and using best value direct-acting oral anticoagulants
 - Identifying patients with hypertension and starting antihypertensives where appropriate
 - Optimising inhaler use to improve respiratory outcomes and reduce carbon emissions
 - Improving valproate safety
 - Optimising lipid management for cardiovascular disease prevention
 - Reducing course length of antimicrobial prescribing
 - Chronic non-cancer pain management without opioids
 - Switching intravenous antibiotics to oral.

2. *A list of the national medicines optimisation opportunities the ICB worked on delivering in 2023/24.*
As above, in question 1.

3. *A list of the locally identified medicines optimisation priorities the ICB has been delivering in 2023/24.*
 - Review of vitamin D prescribing
 - Move to generic prescribing where clinically appropriate
 - Gabapentinoids
 - Direct-acting Oral Anticoagulants (DOAC) – appropriate monitoring
 - Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) – refer patients to commissioned services
 - Salbutamol to Salamol

4. *A list of the locally identified medicines optimisation priorities the ICB has been delivering in 2024/25.*
 - Review of vitamin D prescribing
 - Move to generic prescribing where clinically appropriate
 - Direct supply wound care
 - Omeprazole liquid review
 - Medicines in Pregnancy project
 - Gabapentinoids
 - DOAC – appropriate dosing for clinical indication.

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) has 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, Director of Corporate Affairs 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*

nnicb-nn.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 nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.