Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board

20/10/2025

NN-ICB/25-1347

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 3 October 2025, regarding antimicrobial stewardship (AMS). 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:

I wish to understand any initiatives, programmes or schemes that have been, or in the previous 3 years, undertaken in your ICB area related to Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS).

Specifically I am interested in initiatives, programmes or schemes that;

- *Aim to reduce antibiotic prescribing (measured through Antibiotics per STAR PU or volume of antibiotic prescribing, e.g. https://openprescribing.net/measure/all_antibiotics/)*
- *Aim to reduce the use of broad spectrum antibiotics (co-amoxiclav, cephalosporins and quinolones, e.g. https://openprescribing.net/measure/broad_spectrum/)*
- *Aim to reduce the course length of amoxicillin 500mg (e.g. https://openprescribing.net/measure/amox_500_15_caps/)*
- *Aim to reduce the course length of doxycycline 100mg (e.g. https://openprescribing.net/measure/doxy_100_6_qty/)*

Please can you provide the answers to the following questions;

1. Has your ICB undertaken any initiatives, programmes or schemes related to Antimicrobial Stewardship, specifically the areas highlighted above, now or in the previous 3 years?

   Yes.

2. If so, please could you provide details of how the initiatives, programmes or schemes were undertaken. For example;

   a. Were the initiatives, programmes or schemes undertaken at a GP practice, Primary Care Network (PCN) or ICB level?

      Initiatives, programmes and schemes have been undertaken at GP practices, Primary Care Networks (PCN) and at ICB level, see details below:

- The ICB has produced and maintains a splenectomy information sheet for practices/PCNs to highlight patients requiring vaccination and antibiotics.
- The ICB's Medicines Optimisation Team has produced, and continues to maintain, a SystmOne antimicrobial formulary, which supports shorter course lengths and appropriate prescribing.
- The ICB's Medicines Optimisation Team undertook a review of acne prescribing in Nottinghamshire practices (excluding Bassetlaw) during 2022-23, this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and workstream has now been retired.
- The ICB's Medicines Optimisation Team produced a SOP to support a review of broad spectrum antibiotics, this was not a routine piece of work, and the SOP has now been retired.
- Antimicrobial prescribing is discussed at annual practice prescribing visits.
- Bassetlaw's Medicines Optimisation Team has completed an audit on asplenic patients during 2024/25 (data collection and clinical feedback to practices).
- Ongoing review and updating of local Nottinghamshire APC antimicrobial guidelines continues. Note - Bassetlaw follows the Doncaster and Bassetlaw Formulary.

b. Were the initiatives, programmes or schemes incentivised? If so, could you please provide the details of the incentivisations, e.g. finances allocated, targets assigned or work undertaken by GP practices, PCN or the ICB?

   No, these initiatives or schemes were not incentivised.

c. Was any training or support provided as part of the initiatives, programmes or schemes?

   Yes; training and support has been shared during prescribing visits, at Protected Learning Time sessions for General Practices, and also via bulletins.

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.