

05/06/2026

NN-ICB/26-1608

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 7 May 2026, regarding Sodium Valproate. 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. Please provide a copy of the Action and Improvement Plan produced pursuant to Action 2 of the NatPSA by the 31 January 2024 deadline, or the nearest equivalent document your organisation holds.

[Please find attached the ICB's Valproate Action Plan – \[see attachment A\].](#)

2. Please provide any entry or entries on your corporate risk register relating to valproate-containing medicines (including those recorded as sodium valproate, valproic acid, valproate semisodium, Epilim, or Depakote), added or active at any point between 1 October 2023 and the date of this request. For each entry, please provide the risk title and description, date first added, inherent and residual risk scores, recorded controls and mitigating actions, and current status, if closed, the date of closure and reason recorded. If no such entry exists or has existed in this period, please confirm this in your response.

[There are no entries on the ICB's corporate Organisational Risk Register.](#)

3. Please provide copies of any papers, reports or minutes from your Medicines Optimisation Committee or equivalent, or any sub-group or working group established to co-ordinate valproate safety, concerning valproate prescribing or patient outcomes, to address cost concerns you can simplify by identifying documents by keyword searches for “valproate”, “VPA”, “Epilim” and “valproic acid” from October 2023 to March 2026.

[Please find attached the minutes from the Valproate Working Group meetings - \[see attachments B-I\].](#)

[Names of individuals within the attached minutes have been redacted as this is personal information and as such, is exempt under section 40\(2\) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.](#)

[As defined by the Data Protection Act, personal data means any information relating to an identified or identifiable living individual. 'Identifiable living individual' means a living individual who can be identified, directly or indirectly, in particular by reference to an identifier such as a name.](#)

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 Governance and Assurance 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.