

FOINHSD24/1070

NHS Devon
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d-icb.foi@nhs.net

Tel: 01392 205205

15 January 2025

Dear

Re: Request for information under Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

NHS Devon Integrated Care Board (ICB) is confirming in accordance with Section - (1) (a) of the Act, whether it holds the information requested and (b) is supplying it unless otherwise specified.

NHS Devon can confirm it holds the requested information.

On Friday 13 December you volunteered the following clarification to question 3.

Q3 A list of the locally identified medicines optimisation priorities the ICB has been delivering in 2023/24

You requested the following information.

I'd like to request the following information under the FOI act:

1. A list of the national medicines optimisation opportunities the ICB has been delivering in 2024/25

- Addressing problematic polypharmacy.
- Chronic non-cancer pain management without opioids
- Improving valproate safety

Three CVD opportunities:

- Identifying patients with atrial fibrillation and using best value direct-acting oral anticoagulants
- Identifying patients with hypertension and starting antihypertensives where appropriate
- Optimising lipid management for cardiovascular disease prevention

2. A list of the national medicines optimisation opportunities the ICB worked on delivering in 2023/24

System leaders agree that all 16 national medicines optimisation opportunities medicines are important, with an agreement to highlight on:

- Addressing problematic polypharmacy.
- Reducing opioid use in chronic non-cancer pain.

Three CVD opportunities:

- Identifying patients with atrial fibrillation and using best value direct-acting oral anticoagulants.
- Identifying patients with hypertension and starting antihypertensives where appropriate
- Optimising lipid management for cardiovascular disease prevention

3. A list of the locally identified medicines optimisation priorities the ICB has been delivering in 2023/24

In addition to those areas identified above, stemming from national opportunity number 3 in 2023/2024; a local priority has been improving uptake of the most clinically and cost-effective medicines, which includes a focus on appropriate prescribing of oral nutritional supplements.

4. A list of the locally identified medicines optimisation priorities the ICB has been delivering in 2024/25

Appropriate prescribing of oral nutritional supplements continues to be an area of focus.

By way of context, in the 2024/25 planning guidance ICBs were told to "optimise medicine value through... delivering against at least 5 of the national medicines optimisation opportunities alongside locally identified priorities".

NHSE listed the 16 national medicines optimisation opportunities referred to in the planning guidance in a document entitled [National medicines optimisation opportunities 2024/25](#). This was the second year that NHSE had asked ICBs to focus on at least five of these opportunities. In 2023/24 it also published a document listing the same 16 opportunities.

Satisfaction

We trust this matter has been dealt with to your satisfaction but if there is anything you need clarifying, please do not hesitate to contact the office on 01392 205205 or emailing d-icb.foi@nhs.net Please remember to quote the reference number at the top of this letter in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request a review of our decision or make a complaint, you can write to the office and arrangements will be made for an independent review. You can write directly to the NHS Devon Chief Executive Officer if you prefer using the “contact us” details displayed on the NHS Devon website.

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the independent review, you have the right to appeal again to the Information Commissioner at:
Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF

Tel: 01625 545 700

Fax: 01625 524 510

Yours sincerely,

**The Freedom of Information Office
NHS Devon Integrated Care Board**