



NEL,
1 Lower Marsh,
London,
SE1 7NT

Email: NELCSU.foi@nhs.net

Dear Zarafshaan Hussain,

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Reference: FOI.18.SOU030

Thank you for your request under the *Freedom of Information Act 2000* (the Act). This response is provided on behalf of NHS Southwark Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Your request along with the CCG's response is detailed below.

I would like to request the information about the following points around the CCG's decisions with patient care and its structure.

1. What criteria does the CCG use to select which inhalers should be prescribed for Asthma and COPD?

I can confirm that NHS Southwark CCG does hold this information. Guidance on which inhalers should be prescribed for asthma/COPD and which inhalers should be included in the local formulary are made by the South East London Responsible Respiratory Prescribing Group (SEL RRP).

SEL RRP is a subgroup of the South East London Area Prescribing Committee (SEL APC). Guidelines including drugs to be included in the local formulary are submitted to, and rectified by the South East London Area Prescribing Group and the Medicines and Pathways Review Group (MPRG). As a partner organisation, NHS Southwark CCG accepts decisions made by SEL APC. Please refer to the website link below:

<http://www.lambethccg.nhs.uk/news-and-publications/meeting-papers/south-east-london-area-prescribing-committee/Pages/default.aspx>

2. How does the CCG compare the cost-effectiveness, efficacy, safety and patient usability of different inhalers when selecting which COPD and Asthma inhalers should be included on its local guidance?

Please refer to the answer provided for Question 1.

3. Over the past three years, has the CCG introduced a planned programme of care which resulted in the medicines optimisation team, contractors or GP practices proactively reviewing patients and aligning their COPD and/or Asthma inhalers to alternative options?

Yes.

4. Please list the alternative asthma and COPD inhalers that were introduced by the CCGs medicines optimisation team, contractors or GP practices during any planned programme of care that proactively reviewed the use of asthma and/or COPD inhalers over the past 3 years?

Please refer to the attached SEL APC guidelines for COPD and Asthma, Annex A and B.

5. Over the past three years, has the CCG used a QIPP scheme to introduce a planned programme of care which resulted in the medicines optimisation team, contractors or GP practices proactively reviewing patients and aligning their COPD and/or Asthma inhalers to alternative options?

Yes. GP Practices were required to review and reduce the use of high dose steroid as part of QIPP.

6. Please list the alternative asthma and COPD inhalers that were introduced by the CCGs medicines optimisation team, contractors or GP practices when using a QIPP scheme to introduce a planned programme of care that proactively reviewed the use of asthma and/ or COPD inhalers over the past 3 years?

Please refer to the answer provided for Question 5.

I would also like to make a request for the full name, contact number and contact email for the following roles listed below within your CCG;

Roles:

Chief Executive Officer

Chief Financial Officer

I can confirm that NHS Southwark CCG does hold this information. The CCG considers that this information is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Section 21 (Reasonably Accessible), which provides an exemption from the duty to disclose information, which is accessible to the Applicant by other means. This information is already available in the public domain and can be accessed at the CCG website link below:

<http://www.southwarkccg.nhs.uk/about-us/who-we-are/meet-our-governing-body/Pages/default.aspx>

Medicines Management Lead

I can confirm that NHS Southwark CCG does hold this information. Please note that personal information encompassing the name of the Medicines Management Lead and the direct contact details of Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Medicines Management Lead have been, withheld by the CCG, under section 40(2) of the Act.

Section 40(2) of the Act provides an exemption to the disclosure of information where it is:

- the personal data of someone other than you; and
- the disclosure of that personal data would put us in breach of the principles of the Data Protection Act 1998 ("DPA"), with which we are obliged to comply.

The personal data within the withheld information is not public and disclosure of this information to the world at large would be unwarranted, does not add to the substantive understanding of the information disclosed, would cause substantial damage and distress to those data subjects involved, and thus would be unfair and in breach of the first DPA principle and, as such, is exempt from disclosure under section 40(2) of the Act.

If you wish to contact anyone within the NHS Southwark CCG, please use the contact information provided below. This will then be passed onto the appropriate individual/s for a response.

This information is provided under Section 16 – duty to provide advice and assistance.



NHS Southwark CCG <http://www.southwarkccg.nhs.uk/contact-us/Pages/-.aspx>

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- State the name of the applicant and an address for correspondence,
- Specify the document to be re-used,
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Email

NELCSU.foi@nhs.net

Postal address

NEL,
1 Lower Marsh,
London,
SE1 7NT

Website address

www.nelcsu.nhs.uk

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<http://nationalarchives.gov.uk/documents/information-management/ogl-user-guidance.pdf>

NEL complies with the *Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015* and we encourage the re-use of the information that we produce, hold and disseminate. We are open and transparent, and treat all applications to re-use in a fair and non-discriminatory way.

Privacy Notice (formerly known as Fair Processing Notice)

We will record your contact and request details in order to monitor and improve the service we provide and in order to discharge our statutory obligations under the Act. This information will be handled in accordance with the NHS Confidentiality Code of Practice and the *Data Protection Act 1998*.

Using personal data we provide

You are required not to use personal data which is provided to you for electronic marketing (telesales, fax, e-mail) to our staff and comply with the Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations 2003. Provision of such personal data in response to a Freedom of Information or Environmental Information request does not constitute consent from the individual concerned.

The *Data Protection Act* gives individuals rights to prevent processing likely to cause substantial unwarranted damage or unwarranted distress (section 10) and to prevent processing for the purposes of direct marketing (section 11). You should be aware that selling, giving or sharing of personal data could breach the *Data Protection Act*. NEL advises staff of their rights on behalf of Clinical Commissioning Groups.

Review procedure

If you feel that we have not met the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, you should contact the FOI Team at: NELCSU.foi@nhs.net

If you remain dissatisfied, you can ask us to review our decision by making a written request for an internal review. In order to assist with the review, you should include your address, a description of the original request and the reasons why you are dissatisfied. Please send this to:

**Email**

NELCSU.foi@nhs.net

Postal address

NEL CSU,
1 Lower Marsh,
London,
SE1 7NT

Website address

www.nelcsu.nhs.uk

The review will be handled by more senior staff who were not involved in the original decision. Although this will not apply to Section 36 claimed exemptions in accordance with Department of Health Directive, your request will still be reviewed. We aim to complete all internal reviews within 20 working days. If you then wish to appeal you should contact the Information Commissioner for an independent review at the following address:

Telephone

01625 545745

Postal address

The Information Commissioner,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF

Website address

www.ico.gov.uk

Feedback

Your feedback is welcome to help us improve the service we provide. Please send comments or suggestions to our address.

Yours sincerely,

John

John Grosvenor

FOI Officer

