



## **Swale Clinical Commissioning Group**

Bramblefield Field  
Grovehurst Road  
Kemsley  
Sittingbourne  
Kent ME10 2ST

Ref No: Swale 023 Hussain  
22 May 2018

Dear Mr Hussain

### **Freedom of Information Request**

Further to your FOI request dated 2 May 2018 the information is below

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

Discussion and agreement at the Drug and Therapeutics Committee, (DTC) (joint with NHS Medway CCG, Medway NHS Foundation Trust, Medway Community Healthcare). Approved preparations are then added onto the Medway and Swale Joint Medication Formulary.

- **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?**

As above – all these features are discussed during the joint DTC.

- **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?**

Review of COPD Guidelines (joint with NHS Medway CCG).

MO-QIP 2015-16 (Medicines Optimisation Quality Improvement Plan) Review of Asthma patients on Seretide inhalers to be switched to the more cost effective Flutiform inhalers, with same strength of Fluticasone. Flutiform inhalers should account for at least 50% of the combined Seretide and Flutiform prescribing.

MO-QIP 2015-16 (Medicines Optimisation Quality Improvement Plan) Review of Corticosteroid Inhalers - Step down/stop high strength ICS in line with national guidelines. Review and reduce the use high dose corticosteroid inhalers (BTS guidelines for asthma patients and stepping down triple therapy in COPD).

- **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 .**

Seretide to AirFluSal switch. Spiriva to Braltus switch.

- **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?**

As above.

- 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?

As above.

- 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;

Chief Executive Officer: Accountable officer - Glen Douglas    [swccg@nhs.net](mailto:swccg@nhs.net) 03000 425100

Managing Director - Ian Ayres    [swccg@nhs.net](mailto:swccg@nhs.net) 03000 425100

Chief Financial Officer: Bill Jones    [swccg@nhs.net](mailto:swccg@nhs.net) 03000 425100

Medicines Management Lead: Balraj Minhas, [swccg.medicine@nhs.net](mailto:swccg.medicine@nhs.net)

03000 45 100

If you have any queries or concerns please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service that you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision you should write to NHS Swale Clinical Commissioning Group, Bramblefield Clinic, Grovehurst Road, Sittingbourne Kent ME10 2ST>

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Clinical Commissioning Group. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioners Office,  
Wycliffe House,  
Water Lane,  
Wilmslow,  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Telephone: 08456 306060 or 01625 54 57 45  
[www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

*Mary Valentine*

Mary Valentine  
FOI Co-ordinator  
Dartford Gravesham and Swanley CCG [DGSCCG.foi@nhs.net](mailto:DGSCCG.foi@nhs.net)  
Swale CCG [SWCCG.foi@nhs.net](mailto:SWCCG.foi@nhs.net)  
Telephone: 03000 424 901