

To Mr John Slater
C/o request-127857-9cbae5e8@whatdotheyknow.com

DWP Business Management Team

Our Ref: VTR 3758-3384

22 January 2013

Dear Mr Slater,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request dated 1 September 2012. In this instance, the Department failed to respond within the 20 working days. Please accept our apologies for the undue delay in responding to your request, this was due to the technical nature of the question and the research involved to respond to you.

You asked:-

1. *Please provide all the data that LiMA holds in relation to the following medication:*
 - *Co-dydramol*
 - *Esomeprazole*
 - *Co-codamol*
 - *Tramadol*
 - *Escitalopram*
 - *Sertraline*
 - *Diazepam*
 - *Eumovate*
 - *Prednisone*
 - *Hydroxychloroquine*
 - *Sulfasalazine*
2. *In relation to medication please provide the source of the following data contained within LiMA:*
 - i. *Technical data*
 - ii. *Relationship with specific medical conditions*
 - iii. *Opinions / views*
3. *How has the data regarding medication been validated, i.e. has it been approved by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society?*
4. *Has the Royal Pharmaceutical Society contributed to the Evidence Base held within LiMA?*

Please find enclosed copies of the Evidence Based Protocols for the Disability Analyst.

These documents have been produced as part of a programme for approved Healthcare Professionals (HCPs) to carry out medical assessments. All HCPs undertaking these medical assessments must be registered medical or nursing practitioners who in addition, have undergone training in disability assessment medicine and more specific training.

The training includes theory training in a classroom setting, supervised practical training, and a demonstration of understanding as assessed by quality audit. These documents must be read with the understanding that, as experienced medical or nursing practitioners, the HCPs will have detailed knowledge of the principles and practice of diagnostic techniques and therefore such information is not contained in these documents. In addition, these are not stand-alone documents, and form only a part of the training and written documentation that a HCP receives. As disability assessment is a practical occupation, much of the guidance also involves verbal information and coaching. Thus, although the documents may be of interest to non-medical readers, some of the information may not be readily understood without background medical knowledge and an awareness of the other training and guidance given to HCPs.

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In answer to **Q 1** please see below all data that Logic Integrated Medical Assessment (LiMA) holds, in relation to the medication listed above:

Co-dydramol - Co-dydramol (for pain relief){ taken |Regularity|}{ |Frequency|}{ at |Dosage| dosage}{ |DoseFrequency| a day}.

Esomeprazole - Esomeprazole (to reduce stomach acid){ taken |Regularity|}{ |Frequency|}{ at |Dosage| dosage}{ |DoseFrequency| a day}.

Co-codamol - Co-codamol (for pain relief){ taken |Regularity|}{ |Frequency|}{ at |Dosage| dosage}{ |DoseFrequency| a day}.

Tranadol - Tramadol (for pain relief){ taken |Regularity|}{ |Frequency|}{ at |Dosage| dosage}{ |DoseFrequency| a day}.

Escitalopram - Escitalopram (for depression){ taken |Regularity|}{ |Frequency|}{ at |Dosage| dosage}{ |DoseFrequency| a day}.

Sertraline - Sertraline (antidepressant){ taken |Regularity|}{ |Frequency|}{ at |Dosage| dosage}{ |DoseFrequency| a day}.

Diazepam - Diazepam (for anxiety){ taken |Regularity|}{ |Frequency|}{ at |Dosage| dosage}{ |DoseFrequency| a day}. Diazepam (muscle relaxant){ taken |Regularity|}{ |Frequency|}{ at |Dosage| dosage}{ |DoseFrequency| a day}.

Eumovate:- Data is not held on this trade name

Prednisone:- Prednisolone (for inflammation){ taken |Regularity|}{ |Frequency|}{ at |Dosage| dosage}{ |DoseFrequency| a day}.

Hydroxychloroquine:- Hydroxychloroquine (for rheumatoid arthritis){ taken |Regularity|}{ |Frequency|}{ at |Dosage| dosage}{ |DoseFrequency| a day}.

Sulfasalazine:- Sulfasalazine (for inflammatory arthritis){ taken |Regularity|}{ |Frequency|}{ at |Dosage| dosage}{ |DoseFrequency| a day}.

Sulfasalazine (for inflammatory bowel disease){ taken |Regularity|}{ |Frequency|}{ at |Dosage| dosage}{ |DoseFrequency| a day}.

In answer to **Q2i**, we are unable to provide the technical medication data source contained within LiMA. This is because LiMA has undergone several hundred updates and to identify where the medication information was taken from (as new medication and new names of medication are introduced on a regular basis) it would not be possible to identify where the information came from.

The detailed information regarding medication on LiMA has been compiled by Atos Healthcare using the relevant medical publications. We estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £600. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

In reply to **Q 2 ii** there is not a relationship with specific medical conditions in LiMA.

In answer to **Q 2 iii** the Freedom of Information Act (Fol) is not about creating information, expressing opinion, entering a debate on the meaning or definition of phrases used or educating the requestor on what things mean, therefore this question cannot be classified as being related to the Fol Act.

In response to **Q 3** the above data has not be approved by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS).

In reply to **Q 4** the RPS itself has not contributed to the evidence base held within LiMA.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

DWP Business Management Team

e-mail: freedom-of-information-xxxxxxx@xxx.xxx.xxx.xx

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing xx@xxx.xxx.gov.uk or by writing to DWP, Central Fol Team,

Caxton House, Tothill Street, SW1H 9NA. Any review request should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF www.ico.gov.uk