



Department
of Health &
Social Care

Freedom of Information Team
Department of Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0EU

www.gov.uk/dhsc

Mrs J Moran

By email to: request-1109658-ca0f5b5f@whatdotheyknow.com

17 April 2024

Dear Mrs Moran,

Freedom of Information Request Reference FOI-1503435

Thank you for your request dated 1 April to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), a copy of which can be found in the accompanying annex.

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Please note that the FOIA only provides a right of access to recorded information held by public authorities. Recorded information can typically include physical and electronic information such as emails, letters, documents, reports, policies, datasets, photographs, and sound or video recordings. However, it does not require public authorities to generate new information to answer questions, including providing explanations or giving opinions, unless this is recorded information that they already hold.

As your request does not ask for recorded information, DHSC is therefore not required to answer. This is set out in section 8(1) of the FOIA.

In future, you may find it helpful to refer to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) 'For the public' webpages when compiling a freedom of information request. They include some advice for requesters on how to word requests to get the best result. They are aimed at the general public and provide guidance on how to use section 1 rights responsibly and effectively. Future requests are less likely to be refused if framed in accordance with these guidelines. You can view the relevant section, 'How to write an effective request for information', on the 'How to access information from a public authority' page of its website, which can be found at <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/official-information>.

Alternatively, you may wish to resubmit your correspondence to our Public Enquires team who will be pleased to assist on this matter. The Public Enquiries team can be contacted at the following email address dhsc.publicenquiries@dhsc.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team
freedomofinformation@dhsc.gov.uk

Annex

From: UK CITIZEN <request-1109658-ca0f5b5f@whatdotheyknow.com>

Sent: Monday, April 1, 2024 1:22 PM

To: FreedomofInformation <freedomofinformation@dhsc.gov.uk>

Subject: Freedom of Information request - PETHIDINE TABLETS, when are they back in stock

Dear Department of Health and Social Care,

Since 2022 Pethidine tablets 50mg have been out of stock since January 2022. The M.P s and manufactureres, Teva and Martindale are advising there is no resupply date, however, there are websites stating the date is April 2024. The companies keep giving resupply dates that keep being changed to a different date. This is not good enough. I have been prescribed this medication for ongoing kidney stones and the alternative medication is not beneficial to me.

Yours faithfully,

mrs j moran

Please use this email address for all replies to this request:
request-1109658-ca0f5b5f@whatdotheyknow.com