



North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference PA\ North East & North
Cumbria ICB\ICB073

Your Reference ICB073

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27 September 2022

By Email

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 - Request for Information – NHS North East & North Cumbria Integrated Care Board.

Thank you for your request received by North of England Commissioning Support (NECS) on 12 September 2022 for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

For information Clinical Commissioning Groups ceased to exist on 30 June 2022. Services that were previously delivered by the CCG are now being delivered by the successor organisation NHS North East and North Cumbria (ICB). This covers the areas of County Durham, Newcastle Gateshead, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland and Tees Valley.

Please find the information you requested on behalf of the ICB as follows;

Request

I am requesting the following information in respect of:

- **Diabetes (SMBG test strips/pen needles)**
- **Wound Care**
- **Urology**
- **Oral contraceptives**

For each area:

1. The name(s) and direct contact email address(es) and direct telephone numbers of the person(s) in your Medicines Management team/ICB/Health Board who are responsible for the formulary
2. The date of the next review of your formulary
3. Details of how you intend to review your formulary (include process, timelines)
4. Details of ICB/Health Board if part of a local partnership arrangement for formulary review. Please provide the contact's name, email address and telephone number for the person with responsibility where a partnership arrangement is in place.

Response

County Durham area

1. Formulary applications are submitted for consideration to and the formulary is maintained by the County Durham and Tees Valley Area Prescribing Committee – see <https://medicines.necsu.nhs.uk/committees/county-durham-tees-valley-apc/> for more information. On this publicly accessible website, you can also find links to the below guidance documents.
2. Diabetes (SMBG test strips/pen needles) – June 2023
Wound Care – ongoing
Urology – please see <https://medicines.necsu.nhs.uk/guidelines/durham-darlington/> for available urology guidelines
Oral contraceptives – no local guidelines

Please see <https://medicines.necsu.nhs.uk/guidelines/county-durham-tees-valley-formularies-guidelines/> for more information.

3. See answer 1.
4. No partnership arrangements in place other than those set out here: <https://medicines.necsu.nhs.uk/committees/county-durham-tees-valley-apc/>

Newcastle Gateshead area

Newcastle Gateshead use the North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria formulary/guidelines. These are managed by the area prescribing committee who will hold details of their processes and date of review. They can be contacted here [North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria Formulary \(northoftyneandgatesheadformulary.nhs.uk\)](http://NorthofTyne,GatesheadandNorthCumbriaFormulary(northoftyneandgatesheadformulary.nhs.uk))

North Cumbria area

This information is held publicly.
North Cumbria are part of the North of Tyne area prescribing committee and formulary. All members, guidelines, review dates and contact details can be found at:

<http://www.northoftyneapc.nhs.uk/>

<http://northoftyneandgatesheadformulary.nhs.uk/>

North Tyneside area

- 1. The content of the formulary, for each respective section including those mentioned above, is developed and managed by the Formulary Sub-Committee of the North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria Area Prescribing Committee (APC) and is not the responsibility of any one person. The formulary Sub-Committee is responsible for which medicines are included in the formulary. The Medicines Guideline and Use group review guidance that may include specific non-drug products ,e.g., SMBG testing equipment and there is a specific wound care subcommittee who review dressings etc. I refer you to the terms of reference at [Terms of Reference | North Of Tyne Area Prescribing Committee \(northoftyneapc.nhs.uk\)](#) and the Formulary at [North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria Formulary \(northoftyneandgatesheadformulary.nhs.uk\)](#). Contact details for individuals with responsibility for the Formulary are available on the website home page.*
- 2. The content of the Formulary for non-drug products such as SMBG test strips is linked to specific guidance documents and their review dates can be found on the respective guidance section of the [APC website](#) (click link). NB: there is no specific guidance on pen needles therefore this is a matter for local, non-APC guidance if this is felt to be a high priority area for them*
- 3. Sections of the medicines Formulary are reviewed as part of the process when new applications for inclusion are made, e.g., if there is an application for a new oral contraceptive the respective section will be reviewed and rationalised on the merits of the new and existing products. There has been a process for ongoing formulary sections being reviewed routinely but this slipped during COVID and has paused currently as there is an intention to create a single formulary across the ICS.*
- 4. As in response to Question 1 the contents of the Formulary is developed by a number of Sub-Committees of the APC and is supported by representatives from primary and secondary care NHS organisations across North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria who are members of the respective committees. There is an expectation that this will change to one formulary across the ICS footprint, but this is not yet in place and existing committees continue at present.*

Northumberland area

- 1. The content of the formulary, for each respective section including those mentioned above, is developed and managed by the formulary subcommittee of the North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria area prescribing committee (APC) and is not the responsibility of any one person. The formulary Sub-Committee is responsible for which medicines are included in the formulary. The Medicines Guideline and Use group review guidance that may include specific non-drug products ,e.g., SMBG testing equipment and there is a specific wound care subcommittee who review dressings etc. I refer you to the terms of reference at [Terms of Reference | North Of Tyne Area Prescribing Committee \(northoftyneapc.nhs.uk\)](#) and the formulary at [North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria Formulary \(northoftyneandgatesheadformulary.nhs.uk\)](#)*

2. The content of the Formulary for non-drug products such as SMBG test strips is linked to specific guidance documents and their review dates can be found on the respective guidance section of the [APC website](#) (click link). NB: there is no specific guidance on pen needles therefore this is a matter for local, non-APC guidance if this is felt to be a high priority area for them
3. Sections of the medicines Formulary are reviewed as part of the process when new applications for inclusion are made, e.g., if there is an application for a new oral contraceptive the respective section will be reviewed and rationalised on the merits of the new and existing products. There has been a process for ongoing formulary sections being reviewed routinely but this slipped during COVID and has paused currently as there is an intention to create a single formulary across the ICS.
4. As in response to Question 1 the contents of the formulary is developed by a number of subcommittees of the APC and is supported by representatives from primary and secondary care NHS organisations across North of Tyne, Gateshead and North Cumbria who are members of the respective committees. There is an expectation that this will change to one formulary across the ICs footprint but this is not yet in place and existing committees continue at present.

South Tyneside area

1. Marie Thompkins marie.thompkins@nhs.net 07786174336
2. Diabetes BGM – In progress to update with CGM
Wound Care Sept 2024
Urology – Unknown
Oral contraceptives – unknown
3. BGM – this will be in line with regional consensus discussions of which are ongoing
All others dependent upon ICB plans yet to be formulated
4. Formulary is for South Tyneside and Sunderland APC – Formerly Sunderland and South Tyneside CCGs and Sunderland and South Tyneside FT. Part of NENC ICB

Sunderland area

1. Formulary maintained by the South Tyneside and Sunderland Area Prescribing Committee: nencicb-sun.apc@nhs.net
2. The formulary has no date of review but is reviewed on a rolling basis as need for changes identified
 - Diabetes (SMBG test strips/pen needles) – South Tyneside and Sunderland SMBG guidance due for review March 2024
 - Wound Care – South Tyneside and Sunderland Wound Product Formulary due for review January 2024
 - Urology - no date of review but reviewed on a rolling basis as need for changes identified
 - Oral contraceptives - no date of review but reviewed on a rolling basis as need for changes identified

3. See answer to question 2.

Formulary change/request is submitted to the Area Prescribing Committee who then make a recommendation.

4. Not applicable

Tees Valley area

1. Formulary maintained by RDTC NYRDTC.RXSUPP (THE NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST) nuth.nyrdtc.rxsupp@nhs.net on behalf of the APC.
2. The formulary has no date of review but is reviewed on a rolling basis as need for changes identified
 - Diabetes (SMBG test strips/pen needles) – CD&T SMBG guidance due for review June 2023
 - Wound Care – use each of the Acute Trust Wound Care Formularies
 - Urology - no date of review but is reviewed on a rolling basis as need for changes identified
 - Oral contraceptives - no date of review but is reviewed on a rolling basis as need for changes identified
3. See answer to question 2. Formulary change/request is submitted for formulary subgroup who then make a recommendation to the Area Prescribing Committee. FSG/APC meet alternating months.
4. Not applicable

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the NHS ICB website <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/>.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the service 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 the Senior Governance Manager using the contact details at the top of this letter quoting the appropriate reference number.

If you are not content with the outcome your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by The North of England Commissioning Support Unit.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

www.ico.gov.uk

Any information we provide following your request under the Freedom of Information Act will not confer an automatic right for you to re-use that information, for example to publish it. If you wish to re-use the information that we provide and you do not specify this in your initial application for information then you must make a further request for its re-use as per the Re-Use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015 www.legislation.gov.uk . This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours sincerely

Paul Atkinson

Paul Atkinson
Information Governance Officer