



# North East and North Cumbria

Our Reference North East & North Cumbria  
ICB FOI 369

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23 May 2023

By Email

Dear Sir or Madam

## **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information – NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB)**

Thank you for your request received by North of England Commissioning Support (NECS) on 12 May 2023 for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

NENC ICB covers the areas of County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland and Tees Valley (which covers the 5 councils that make it up – Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees).

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

### **Your Request**

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding Enfit Syringes for administration of medicines via enteral feeds

### **Background**

Enfit syringes are used for administration of medicines via enteral feeding tubes and cannot be prescribed on FP10. Please could you provide us with the following information on your arrangements for supply of Enfit syringes to help inform our commissioning intentions.

1. Do you have arrangements in place for the provision of Enfit Syringes for administration of medicines via enteral feeds for patients within the community?

If NO please confirm if patients are expected to source and purchase themselves?

If YES Please give details of:

- Which health care sector supplies the syringes (e.g. community pharmacy, HENS team, GP practice etc)
- Is the supply patient or healthcare initiated?
- What is the mechanism used for initiating and delivering/ collecting a supply?
- Is counselling on the administration of the medicine(s) included in the service?
- Are all patient groups included ?
- Quantity, frequency and size of syringes supplied?
- How supply is initiated/monitored.
- Please provide a service specification if in place.

2. Do you have a Policy or guidance relating to the administration of medicines via enteral tubes?

If YES, please provide.

## Our Response

1. *Patients using enteral feeds should be supplied all the equipment they need initially by the specialist secondary care service then by the community team supporting their care.*

*The brand of product chosen is decided by the specialist service. Patients are not expected to source or purchase such products themselves. If operational issues arise that mean the products must be sourced in primary care arrangements are made on an individual patient basis to supply the required product via community pharmacies.*

2. *Guidelines to follow in relation to medicines administration via enteral tubes can be found here <https://www.newtguidelines.com>*

*Other than the above information, NENC ICB cannot answer your request. It would need to be redirected to the Foundation Trusts as follows:*

<b>NENC Acute Hospital FTs</b>	<b>Email</b>
County Durham & Darlington NHS FT	cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net
Gateshead Health NHS FT	ghnt.foi.enquiries@nhs.net
North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT	foirequests@ncic.nhs.uk
North Tees & Hartlepool NHS FT	foi@nth.nhs.uk
Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT	foi@northumbria.nhs.uk
South Tees Hospitals NHS FT	foi@stees.nhs.uk
South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS FT	stsft.freedomofinformation@nhs.net
The Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT	nuth.freedom.information@nhs.net

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](http://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](http://www.legislation.gov.uk) . This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours sincerely

*Pamela Coxon*

**Pamela Coxon**  
**Information Governance Officer**