

Procurement, Commissioning & Facilities
NHS National Services Scotland
National Distribution Centre
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Date: 18 December 2023
Our ref: K: FOI/Ref: 2023-000454
Email: nss.pcf-foi@nhs.scot

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information Reference: FOI-2023-000454 - Unlicensed Medicines

I refer to your freedom of information request that we received on 06 December 2023 requesting the following information.

Please provide the following information you have pertaining to NHS Trust unlicensed medicine expenditure.

What is the total value of spend by your NHS Trust on unlicensed medication (i.e. Special Order, Drug Tariff Special Order, Part VIID Drug Tariff Special Order) that have a BNF liquid formulation (e.g. liquid, solution, suspension)? Please provide this information on a volume and value basis for the following years (please fill in the tables below).

Note: Value of spend to mean either net ingredient cost or actual cost. Please state which you have used below. Actual cost would be the total cost to NHS commissioners whereas NIC is the cost at list price excluding VAT.

- 1. Do you outsource the manufacturing of liquid unlicensed products?**
- 2. If no to question 3 (use of outsourcing providers), what proportion of the products that you manufacture in-house are aseptically compounded rather than terminally sterilised?**
- 3. If yes to question 3 (use of outsourcing providers), what is the total value of spend by provider? Please provide this information for the following years (please fill in the tables below).**

I can advise you that we have now completed the search of our records and can provide you with the following information:

Under Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Scotland Act, 2002 (FOISA) an organisation does not have to provide the requested information if it does not hold that information. NHS National Services Scotland (NSS) does not hold this information. NSS does not dispense/supply medicines to the public and has no expenditure on liquid formulations of unlicensed medicines. We provide national strategic support services and expert advice to Scotland's health sector.



Headquarters

Gyle Square, 1 South Gyle Crescent, EDINBURGH EH12 9EB

Chairperson Keith Redpath
Chief Executive Mary Morgan

I trust you will find the information of assistance and if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you are unhappy with any aspect of how we have dealt with your request, you can make representations to us asking us to review the handling of your request. Please write to the

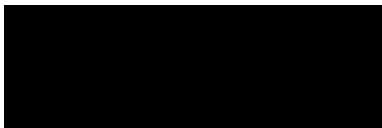
Head of Information and Cyber Security
Digital and Security
NHS National Services Scotland
Headquarters
Gyle Square
1 South Gyle Crescent
Edinburgh
EH12 9EB

or at the email address nss.foi@nhs.scot within 40 working days of the date of this correspondence.

If after a review you are still unhappy, you also have the right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at Kinburn Castle, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS, or via their [online application form](#).

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me at the above address.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.A black rectangular redaction box covering contact information, likely a phone number or email address.