

Ref: FOI/00488/CMICB
28 July 2023

Dear,

**Re: Freedom of Information Act 2000
Paxlovid & Remdesivir**

Thank you for your information request indicated in bold below, which has now been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 by NHS Cheshire & Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB). I am able to provide you with the following information and responses.

Please note from 01 July 2022, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) were disestablished, and their statutory functions and responsibilities inherited by NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB.

Your Request:

1) Drugs such as Paxlovid & Remdesivir were delivered / are being delivered via Nhs Covid Medicines Delivery Units (CMDUs), mainly via hospitals, rather than primary care, is this correct?

Our Response:

1) Stocks of medicine such as Paxlovid/Remdesivir are held in acute NHS trusts across Cheshire and Merseyside. When required, these medicines are dispensed to patients who have been triaged and require treatment via the Cheshire & Merseyside CMDU Service.

Your Request:

2) Does Paxlovid & Remdesivir prescribing based at secondary care only for some parts of England?

Our Response:

2) Prescribing of Paxlovid/Remdesivir is via the Cheshire & Merseyside CMDU Service, which is hosted by Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust, and does not occur in hospitals. The Cheshire & Merseyside CMDU Service covers all of Cheshire and Merseyside with the exception of the former NHS Eastern Cheshire CCG footprint, whose service is commissioned from Greater Manchester.

Your Request:

3) How many secondary care patients received Paxlovid & Remdesivir from prescriptions in your Nhs Icb?

Our Response:

3) Information not held on prescribing of Paxlovid/Remdesivir to secondary care patients. You may wish to redirect your request for this information to the NHS Business Services Authority (BSA) who hold prescribing and dispensing data and can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via: nhsbsa.foirequests@nhs.net.

Your Request:

4) Which parts of your Nhs Icb area has Paxlovid & Remdesivir prescribing delivered at primary care?

Our Response:

4) Prescribing of Paxlovid/Remdesivir is not delivered in Primary Care across NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB.

Your Request:

5) How many primary care patients received Paxlovid & Remdesivir from prescriptions in your Nhs Icb?

Our Response:

5) Information not held on prescribing of Paxlovid/Remdesivir to primary care patients. You may wish to redirect your request for this information to the NHS Business Services Authority (BSA) who hold prescribing and dispensing data and can be contacted for Freedom of Information requests via: nhsbsa.foirequests@nhs.net.

Your Request:

6) Where are the primary care centers prescribing Paxlovid & Remdesivir in your Nhs Icb?

Our Response:

6) As previously advised, prescribing of Paxlovid/Remdesivir is not undertaken by primary care centres and instead is delivered via the Cheshire & Merseyside CMDU Service.

Your Request:

7) If Paxlovid & Remdesivir is delivered at secondary care centers only in your Nhs Icb is that only as inpatient or as outpatient or both?

Our Response:

7) Paxlovid/Remdesivir is delivered via the Cheshire & Merseyside CMDU Service, provided by Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust which is a community health provider, and patients are treated in the community with medication supplies provided from hospital pharmacies. Hospitals provide both inpatient and outpatient treatment as required and hospital consultants can also refer patients to the Cheshire & Merseyside CMDU Service, should they require community treatment as an outpatient.

Your Request:

8) Where are the secondary care centers in your Nhs Icb prescribing Paxlovid & Remdesivir to outpatients?

Our Response:

8) As previously advised, prescribing of Paxlovid/Remdesivir is not undertaken by secondary care centres and instead is delivered via the Cheshire & Merseyside CMDU Service.

Your Request:

9) How many vaccination centers are there in your Nhs Icb which have received covid vaccine Novavax & which vaccine centers are these that have received Novavax?

Our Response:

9) NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB does not hold information on how many or which vaccination centres have received the Covid-19 vaccine Novavax specifically.

Your Request:

10) Is Formulary there online to public in your Nhs Icb? What is the web address?

Our Response:

10) There are two formularies in operation across NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB, the Cheshire Formulary (<https://www.cheshireformulary.nhs.uk/>) and the Pan Mersey APC Formulary (<https://www.panmerseyapc.nhs.uk/formulary/>).

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response or do not feel that your request has been answered as you would expect, please contact us to discuss.

We also wish to take this opportunity to inform you that, where you are not satisfied with the response to your request for information, a formal complaints and internal review process is available.

This can be formally requested by emailing foi@cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk and must be done within a reasonable time period (3 calendar months) from the date this response was issued.

Where you remain dissatisfied with our review under the Freedom of Information Act or the Environmental Information Regulations, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted at;

*The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk*

Should you need any further clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us quoting the above FOI reference.