

Date: Wednesday, 26 June 2019 Our Ref: MB/KF FIRM 3882

Sid Watkins Building Lower Lane Fazakerley Liverpool L9 7BB Tel: 0151-525-3611 Fax: 0151-529-5500 Direct Line: 0151 556 3037

Re: Freedom of Information Request FIRM 3882

We are writing in response to your request submitted under the Freedom of Information Act, received in this office on 11th June 2019.

Your request was received as follows: -

1. Please list the unlicensed cannabis based medical products you have approved for prescription by consultants (on the General Medical Council's specialist register), in your NHS Acute (Hospital) Trust's area on an NHS prescription to their patients. ('Unlicensed' refers to the medicine not having received Market Approval in the UK by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency and it not being listed in Schedule 4 of the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001). – The Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust (WCFT) can confirm no products approved for prescription at the expense of the NHS. However we have approved use of Epidiolex for a very small number of patients with genetically proven Dravet syndrome as part of the pharmaceutical company's compassionate use scheme, for which the company provides the product free of charge.

2. Please state the number of prescriptions that have been issued within your NHS Trust's area for the following cannabis based medical products since 01/11/2018:

- Nabiximols (Sativex). Product code: PL 18024/0009. - 0 - Cannabidiol (Epidiolex). Product code: N/A. - 0

WCFT can confirm the Walton neurologists provide a visiting neurologist service to many acute general Trusts in the area, and at such clinics in Wales they may prescribe Sativex for MS. We cannot provide figures for this as this information is held by the other Trusts. Note that in Wales (unlike in England) Sativex is approved for prescription on the NHS for MS.

See our response above in blue.

Re-Use of Public Sector Information

All information supplied by the Trust in answering a request for information (RFI) under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 will be subject to the terms of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, Statutory Instrument 2005 No. 1515 which came into effect on 1st July 2005.

Under the terms of the Regulations, the Trust will licence the re-use of any or all information supplied if being used in a form and for the purpose other than which it was originally supplied. This license for re-use will be in line with the requirements of the Regulations and the licensing terms and fees as laid down by the Office of Public Sector Information (OPSI). Most licenses will be free; however the Trust reserves the right, in certain circumstances, to charge a fee for the re-use of some information which it deems to be of commercial value.

Further information can be found at www.opsi.gov.uk where a sample license terms and fees can be found with guidance on copyright and publishing notes and a Guide to Best Practice and regulated advice and case studies, at www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/psi-regulations/index.htm

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Freedom of Information Office at the address above.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely Mr Mike Burns, Executive Lead for Freedom of Information





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