

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: UHB 19-542**

12 September 2019

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

**Request:**

*I'm gathering relevant documents for the Pharmacists, GPs and Dispensers to use. I've got the guidance from RPS "better use of Multi-compartment compliance Aids" and was hoping to also get the MCA Stability of Medicines database. I've seen from the website that this is being updated this year; am I able to have access to a previous version (I've had no luck in finding this online).*

*I appreciate that how the SPS does it is not as Pinderfields or the UKMi did it – however, we do need a more up-to-date list than the 2006 Pinderfields one available on the internet. I would really appreciate a list being sent forward to me (whatever the most up-to-date list you have readily available, even if it is from 2016/17 when UKMi were still on it).*

**Response:**

The Specialist Pharmacy Serviced (SPS) website [www.sps.nhs.uk](http://www.sps.nhs.uk), contains all the data you have requested about storage of medicines in compliance aids. This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 21 of the FOI Act as it is already reasonably accessible by other means.

The data on medicines in compliance aids is listed by individual drug as you know. This data set does not cover all medicines, it covers a lot of branded drugs and a number of branded generics. It is designed to be an overview but not a sole source for decision making about whether or not to include a medicine in a compliance aid.

Advice on the issues around using medicines compliance aids is given here - <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/usage-of-medicines-in-compliance-aids/> and as explained, there are a number of variables that need to be considered for each patient and their medicines before making the decision to use a compliance aid. Professional decision making

based on knowledge of the individual patient, the medicines and the type of compliance aid (there are a lot, for example heat sealed, cold sealed, not sealed, etc), is encouraged.

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, 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:

Trust Secretary  
University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust  
Trust Headquarters  
Marlborough Street  
Bristol  
BS1 3NU

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

#### Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

**FOI Team**  
**UH Bristol NHS Foundation Trust**