

12 November 2019

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Our Ref: FOI/03484

Thank you for your request concerning our pharmacy services provider.

Your request has been considered and processed in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000.

I would like information about the provider of pharmacy services to the hospitals in your trust. Could you please provide the following information, by hospital:

- 1. Are the pharmacy services in-house or outsourced? (proceed to Section I if in-house and Section II if outsourced). If part of the services are in-house (tendered through the Department of Health / NHS frameworks) and part outsourced (for example for outpatients), please answer both parts.**

In-House.

- 2. Who are your suppliers for:**

- 2.1. Clozapine (antipsychotic)**

Denzapine the brand is supplied by the manufacturer Britannia Pharmaceuticals but dispensed by in house NHS Pharmacy.

- 2.2. Fluoxetine (antidepressant)**

It varies.

- 2.3. Lithium carbonate (anticonvulsant)**

It varies.

#### **Section I – in-house pharmacy**

- 1. Did the trust tender through the Department of Health's Commercial Medicines Unit (CMU)?**

No, it is a in house NHS Trust departmental pharmacy.

- a. If not, tendered through CMU:**

- i. How did the trust / hospital tender?**

Not applicable.

**ii. Who applied to fill the tender?**

Not applicable.

**iii. What were the tender criteria?**

Not applicable.

**iv. Why was the chosen supplier awarded the contract?**

Not applicable.

**v. Is the chosen supplier the trust's de-facto supplier?**

Not applicable.

**vi. What is the annual cost of the contract?**

Not applicable.

**b. If tendered through CMU:**

**i. How many suppliers are engaged with the hospitals to provide pharmaceuticals?**

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**ii. On average, what discounts does the supplier offer vs. the retail price?**

No discounts taken, all bought through NHS contract prices.

**2. Delivery of pharmaceuticals:**

**a. How often do you get deliveries from pharmaceutical suppliers?**

Daily.

**b. Is the delivery a fixed amount of each contracted drug or is it based on the hospital's stock of the drug i.e. more frequently used drugs are delivered in larger quantities and more frequently by the supplier?**

Depends on what we order.

**c. Is the stock of each drug monitored manually on an Excel sheet or electronically via a specialised software?**

Specialised software.

**i. If monitored by specialist software, who is the provider of said software?**

Ascribe.

### 3. Current provider:

a. Has / have the current providers always been the suppliers of pharmaceuticals for the hospital for more than 3 years?

Yes it is a in house NHS Trust departmental pharmacy.

i. If not, who was the previous supplier?

Not applicable.

ii. Why were the old supplier's contract not renewed?

No applicable.

### Section II – Outsourced pharmacy

#### 1. Current provider:

a. Who is the current provider of your outsourced pharmacy services?

b. Are they the de-facto provider for all pharmaceutical needs? If not, could you list the other providers?

c. How did the hospital contract the current provider?

i. What is the duration of the contract?

ii. What were the key terms of the contract that the supplier had to meet?

iii. How many suppliers applied for the contract?

iv. Has / have the current providers always been the suppliers of pharmaceuticals for the hospital for more than 3 years?

1. If not, who was the previous supplier?

2. Why were the old supplier's contract not renewed?

d. On average, what discounts does the supplier offer vs. the retail price?

e. How often do you get deliveries from pharmaceutical suppliers?

f. Is the delivery a fixed amount of each contracted drug or is it based on the hospital's stock of the drug i.e. more frequently used drugs are delivered in larger quantities and more frequently by the supplier?

g. Is the stock of each drug monitored manually on an Excel sheet or electronically via a specialised software?

i. If monitored by specialist software, who is the provider of said software?

Section II Is not applicable to us.

Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please find enclosed an information sheet regarding copyright protection and the Trust's complaints procedure in the event that you are not satisfied with the response.

Yours sincerely

*Sue Smith*

**Sue Smith**  
**Information Rights Officer**

Enc: Copyright Protection and Complaints Procedure Information Leaflet.

If you would like to complete a short survey in relation to your Freedom of Information request please scan the QR code below or click [here](#).

