

Our Ref: FOI ID 37405

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NHS South Sefton CCG

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Re: Freedom of Information Request

Please find below the response to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding Medication in Monitored Dosage System (MDS) Trays within NHS South Sefton CCG.

Request/[Response](#):

We are seeking information on the costs of dispensing medicines in monitored dosage systems (MDS) trays (also known as "medication organisation devices" (MOD), "medicines compliance aids" (MCAs) or "Multi Compartment Compliance Aids" (MCA)).

Could you please supply me with the following information:

1. What is the number of MDS trays per week paid for by your CCG?

[None](#)

2. What is the monthly (or annual) cost to your CCG of dispensing medicines in MDS trays?

[Zero](#)

3. Do you have a process for supporting medication compliance in people with cognitive impairment e.g. providing telephone reminders. If so

[Yes, we have a medicines management virtual ward \(VW\) team in NHS South Sefton CCG. This team will assess patients and provide appropriate compliance aids, as required. After each visit, follow up support to patients is provided as required and GP practices are informed of the outcomes.](#)

- (a) what is the number of patients supported,

[From April 2016 - March 2017 there were 367 patients supported by the Virtual Ward](#)

- (b) how many members of staff work in the team, and

[4 days per week for a Pharmacist and 4 days per week for a Pharmacy Technician](#)

- (c) what is the monthly (or annual) cost?

The monthly cost would be £2,108.75 for a Pharmacy Technician.

The monthly cost would be £3,054 for a Pharmacist.

4. Does your CCG have a medicines management programme? If so please direct me to the web page that describes the program, or send a document that describes the programme.

Yes, we have a medicines optimisation plan. For 2017-18 we have a medicines optimisation action tracker which is currently in development. Please find a copy of the medicines optimisation plan for 2016-17 attached, for information.

5. Does your CCG have a policy on the use of MDS trays? If so please direct me to the web page that describes the policy, or send a document that describes the policy.

No written policy however we have recommended to nursing homes jointly with the council that they administer from original packs rather than MDS trays