

Our Ref: FOI ID 42642

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Re: Freedom of Information Request

Please find below the response to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding prescribing of antibiotics within South Sefton CCG.

Request/Response:

1. Do you have a formulary used by primary care prescribers? If so, what is the current status of nitrofurantoin and trimethoprim with respect to urinary tract infections (e.g. first line, second line, etc)

Yes – NHS South Sefton CCG use the Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee (PMAPC) Antimicrobial Guidelines. Please see the link below:-

http://www.panmerseyapc.nhs.uk/formulary/documents/05-00-00_infections.pdf.

This version of the Guidelines was produced in March 2016 and is currently under active review following recent changes in the Public Health England (PHE) guidance and NICE guidelines and with the current NHS England Quality Premium.

In the current version of the Guidelines, nitrofurantoin is first line for urinary tract infections (when appropriate clinically) in all patient groups. Trimethoprim is second line, except for pregnant women, where cefalexin is second line. Additional information on safe prescribing in patients with poor renal function is included.

2. Has the status of either nitrofurantoin or trimethoprim changed in the formulary since November 2014? If so, can you please provide the previous status(es) and details of the date(s) of change.

Yes – the Guidelines in use in November 2014 had trimethoprim and nitrofurantoin listed as either /or options with trimethoprim listed first.

These Guidelines were updated and replaced in March 2016 with the current Guidelines as in Q1 above.

3. Have you had any work plans in place with respect to nitrofurantoin and trimethoprim prescribing since 2014? If so, can you please provide documents and start date.

Yes – some NHS South Sefton CCG GP Practices undertook an audit of the diagnosis and treatment of UTI in 2014-15 as part of the Prescribing Quality Scheme 2014-15. Practices were able to choose this audit, or an alternative audit of antimicrobial prescribing in patients in a care home. See attached Medicines Optimisation Plan (MOP) commencing April 2014.

In 2015-16 & 2016-17 the focus of antimicrobial audits was the use of high risk antimicrobials (cephalosporins, quinolones & co-amoxiclav.)

Currently in the 2017-18 Local Quality Contract (LQC) there is a requirement for Practices to undertake an audit of UTI diagnosis and prescribing, using a modification of the TARGET UTI RCGP audit tool, combined with a Practice discussion of the results and a Locality peer review. The audit was undertaken on prescribing in May 2017 for 2 cohorts of patients – under 70 years & over 70 years - and reported & discussed in practices after September 2017. See attached page 28 of our LQC 2017/18 contract for information.

4. Have you had any GP prescribing incentive schemes or similar which relate to trimethoprim or nitrofurantoin prescribing since November 2014? If so, can you please provide the documents.

Yes – as in Q3. Prescribing Quality Scheme in 2014-15 is attached.