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Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which was received into this office on Friday 24th February.

You Asked for:

Could you please let me know whether your CCG, or GP practices within the CCG's area, have used individuals funded by the pharmaceutical industry to carry out reviews of patients' records in the last two years (i.e. since February 2015).

In each case please provide:

- a) the dates of the project and names of any companies involved (including pharmaceutical companies and third party firms)
- b) details of the work undertaken
- c) a copy of any agreement signed by the CCG relation to the project
- d) details, if already held by the CCG, of the number of patients switched to particular drugs as a result of the review

Our Response:

Cost Effective Blood Glucose Meter Project

- a) The main project started in May 2016 for initial sign up (following pilots undertaken end of 2015). Cost effective switches began from June through to early September 2016. Pharmaceutical companies involved as follows:
 - a. Roche Diabetes Care
 - b. GlucoRx Ltd
 - c. Ascensia Diabetes Care
 - d. Menarini Diagnostics
- b) Please note: there were a number of ways in which this work was carried out and supported, with the pharmaceutical industry support being one of them. During this project the pharmaceutical industry would undertake training for patients if their blood glucose testing meters were being changed. They **would not** directly review patient records (this was done by the Medicines Management Team).

- c) NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG) did not sign up to any work with the pharmaceutical companies. For these reviews there was sign up between GP practice and individual company.

- d) Switches were to cost effective blood glucose meters rather than drugs. Medicines Management do not have the details of the numbers of patients switched to particular cost effective meters, by the pharmaceutical representative, as some practices undertook the switches without their support using a number of other methods.

Wirral IMPACT Project

- a) The project started in February 2016 and is due to finish by May 2017. The Pharmaceutical Company involved was Teva UK Limited and the other company involved was National Services for Health Improvement (NSHI) Ltd.

- b) Asthma patient reviews were undertaken within GP practices.

- c) The NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG) did not sign up to any work relating to this project. For these reviews there was sign up between GP practice and individual companies.

- d) Details of the number of patients switched to particular drugs as a result of the review is not known.

Please note that there may be further projects were WCCG, or GP practices within the WCCG's area, have used individuals funded by the pharmaceutical industry to carry out reviews of patients' records in the last two years (i.e. since February 2015 that we are not aware of.)

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