

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group
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Our Ref: ID333

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 2nd November 2015.

You Asked for:

Please could you provide information on the current policy for meeting with representatives from the pharmaceutical industry?

Please include details of your policy for clinical and non-clinical members of Wirral CCG including GPs, Hospital Physicians, Pharmacists and members of the Medicines Management and commissioning team. Under what circumstances are these employees authorised to meet with Representatives who wish to hold promotional and non-promotional discussions in relation to current drugs and drugs in the pipeline expected to launch and be made available for prescribing by employees of Wirral CCG.

Our Response:

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group has a current "Working with the Pharmaceutical Industry Policy", which is in line and compliant with ABPI guidance and NHS codes of conduct. The policy does not specifically cover meetings with representatives from the pharmaceutical industry. However, when CCG employees meet representatives, meetings are conducted in line with ABPI guidance and NHS codes of conduct. The policy is the same for clinical and non-clinical employees of Wirral CCG. The policy does not cover hospital employees or govern GPs who are not employed by the CCG. GPs and Non-medical prescribers do not prescribe medicines as CCG employees.

The CCG does not employ a medicines management team, but commission a service from North West CSU. The CSU medicines management team pharmacists will meet representatives pharmaceutical industry at the request of the CCG and meetings are conducted in line with ABPI guidance and NHS codes of conduct. The CSU medicines management team have an internal SOP for addressing direct meeting requests from representatives from the pharmaceutical industry.

Please see attached a copy of Wirral CCG's "Working with the Pharmaceutical Industry Policy".

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