

Freedom of Information Act Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information:

I am writing to make an open government request for the following information to which I believe I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Use of Sodium Chloride and Levofloxacin in Ophthalmology

- What is your usage of sodium chloride 5% (10ml) units in the last 12 months?

Sodium chloride 5% eye drops 10ml x 29

Sodium chloride preservative free (PF) 5% eye drops 10ml x 6

- Who have been your suppliers of sodium chloride 5% (10ml) units during the past 12 months?

AAH, Mawdsleys

- What price does your trust pay for Sodium Chloride 5% (10ml units)?

We are unable to provide the requested information as it is exempt under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This section exempts information whose disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any legal person, including the public authority holding it

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Public Interest Test: While there is a general public interest in transparency and accountability, we have determined that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure. Disclosing the price paid for Sodium Chloride 5% (10ml units) could harm the commercial interests of the suppliers and the trust by:

- Undermining the supplier's competitive position.
- Affecting the trust's ability to negotiate future contracts on favourable terms.

Therefore, the information is withheld to protect these commercial interests.

- What is your usage of Levofloxacin preservative free unit dose units in the last 12 months?

Levofloxacin preservative free (PF) 5mg in 1ml single use eye drops (30 pack) x 441

- Who have been your suppliers of Levofloxacin preservative free unit dose units during the past 12 months?

AAH

- What price does your trust pay for Levofloxacin preservative free unit dose?

We are unable to provide the requested information as it is exempt under Section 43(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This section exempts information whose disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any legal person, including the public authority holding it

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Public Interest Test: While there is a general public interest in transparency and accountability, we have determined that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure. Disclosing the price paid for Levofloxacin could harm the commercial interests of the suppliers and the trust by:

- Undermining the supplier's competitive position.
- Affecting the trust's ability to negotiate future contracts on favourable terms.

Therefore, the information is withheld to protect these commercial interests.

I understand that you are required to respond to my request within the 20 working days after you receive this letter

If you are not satisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Requests for an internal review should be submitted within 40 working days from the date of this response, and should be addressed to d.wraith@nhs.net.

If you remain dissatisfied after the internal review, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113
Website: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

Our Ref: 247

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