

## Freedom of Information Act Request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am interested in the types and colours of surgical skin markers used within your organisation, and how procurement or clinical guidance decisions are made about their use.

Please provide the following information:

1. A list of all surgical skin markers currently used in your organisation for:
  - Pre-operative site marking in theatres.
  - Marking the skin for bedside or ward-based procedures (e.g., central venous access, chest drains, skin demarcation, or similar). **See blow**
2. For each marker, please include:
  - Brand and product name. **Skintact**
  - Ink colour(s). **Violet**
  - Typical clinical area(s) where it is used. **GI Ophthalmic urology ortho breast ENT vascular (all specialities)**
3. Copies of any product specifications, catalogues, or procurement documents held by the organisation that describe available colours and intended use.

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**FGK115**

**Marker skin pen with ruler violet Super fine tip skin marker sterile**

**MPC:** SM0472

**GTIN:** 04711605990325

**Unit of issue:** Box of 50

**Brand:** Skintact

**Supplier:** FANNIN UK LTD

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**FGK083**

**Marker skin pen with ruler violet Regular tip skin marker sterile**

**MPC:** SM0572  
**GTIN:** 05060654200121  
**Unit of issue:** Each  
**Brand:** Skintact  
**Supplier:** FANNIN UK LTD



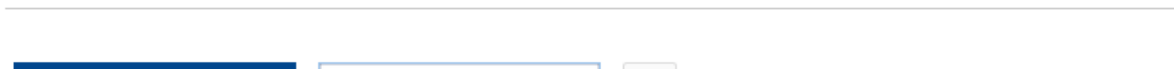
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**FGK116**

**Marker skin pen with ruler violet EXtra broad tip skin marker sterile**

**MPC:** SM0672  
**Unit of issue:** Box of 50  
**Brand:** Skintact  
**Supplier:** FANNIN UK LTD



- of any current Organisational policies, protocols, guidelines, or training materials that:
  - Refer to the choice of surgical skin marker colour.
  - Refer to visibility of markings in different clinical contexts or patient groups.
  - Address this issue within equality, diversity and inclusion, patient safety, or clinical governance documents.

See attached Policy

- Information on whether any additional or alternative marker colours (beyond standard ones) are available within the organisation (e.g., for use in clinical areas or patient groups where standard markings may be less visible). **Information not held**

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6. Anonymised, aggregated incident reports, risk assessments, or patient safety reports (1 January 2019 to present) where visibility of skin markings was identified as a contributory factor. (No patient-identifiable information is requested.)

Fewer than five incidents relating to site marking visibility were identified during the period requested. Due to the small number of incidents, further detail cannot be provided as this could risk identifying individuals. This information is withheld under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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](mailto: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/>

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