

NHS Lanarkshire,
Divisional HQ,
Strathclyde Hospital,
Airbles Road,
Motherwell
ML1 3BW.



Date 27 April 2010

Reference FOI/LCB
Enquiries to Linda Brownlie
Telephone 01698 245101

Dear Mr Small,

Further to your enquiry of 30 March 2010 under the Freedom of Information Act, please find our response below. In your request you asked for the following information:-

- 1) What procedure(s) currently exist for clinicians to prescribe a licensed medicine that has not yet had an SMC determination in your NHS Board area?***
- 2) What procedure(s) does a clinician currently have to follow for a medicine that is not on formulary but has been accepted for use by SMC in your NHS Board area?***
- 3) A copy of the current guidance documents around prescribing items in these two circumstances for your NHS Board area?***

Response

NHS Lanarkshire Area Drug and Therapeutics Committee issue the area drug and therapeutics prescribing supplement which provides information on the status of new medicines. Copies of the supplement are available on the MedEd website as follows:-

<http://www.medednhs1.com/meded/prescribing/index.asp>

Within the managed service a consultant may request a medicine that is licensed but has not yet been assessed by the SMC. Such requests are considered by the Associate Medical Director. The procedure followed is outlined in the policy document Managed Entry of New Medicines which is also available on the above link. It should be noted that this document is being reviewed and we are awaiting national guidance which will influence that review. It is anticipated that the national guidance will be published late April/early May 2010.

I hope this is to your satisfaction. If you have any further queries on this please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you are not satisfied with this response to your original request we can advise you that you do have a right to a review under section 20 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act. For this review you should write to Ian Ross, Director of Strategic Implementation Performance and Planning, NHS Lanarkshire Board, 14 Beckford Street, Hamilton ML3 0TA within 40 working days of 27 April 2010.

If, following the outcome of a request for review, you are still dissatisfied I can advise you that you have the right to make application for a decision by the Scottish Information Commissioner under Section 47(1) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. The Commissioner can be contacted at Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife KY16 9DS or by telephone on 01334 464610, by fax on 01334 464611, and by E-mail at enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'L. Brownlie'.

Linda Brownlie
Freedom of Information Officer
NHS Lanarkshire