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Email: sthelensccg.foi@nhs.net

Our Ref: FOI 7948

Date: 22/08/19

Dear Sir/ Madam

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Further to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding emollient flammability, please see below our response to your request.

Request/Response:

1. Has this information provided by the MHRA been implemented across your CCG to advise healthcare professionals?
The information from the MHRA Drug Safety Update December 2018 was sent to all CCG member practice GPs and Non-Medical Prescribers and to the CCG Out of Hours provider on the 31.1.19
2. How has this been implemented? Please also provide details of any future intentions.
Prescribers would be expected to adhere to the advice in the MHRA Drug Safety Update alert under the heading 'advice for health care professionals' including 'when prescribing, recommending, dispensing, selling, or applying emollient products to patients, instruct them not to smoke or go near naked flames because clothing or fabric such as bedding or bandages that have been in contact with an emollient or emollient-treated skin can rapidly ignite'
3. Has this information provided by the MHRA been implemented across your CCG to advise the public on how to use emollient skin products safely?
Community pharmacists would also be expected to adhere to the information under 'advice for healthcare professionals' including 'when prescribing, recommending, dispensing, selling, or applying emollient products to patients, instruct them not to smoke or go near naked flames because clothing or fabric such as bedding or bandages that have been in contact with an emollient or emollient-treated skin can rapidly ignite'
4. How has this been implemented? Please also provide details of any future intentions
The MHRA drug safety update states that
 - Outer packaging and product containers should include a warning about the fire hazard, with the advice not to smoke or go near naked flames.
 - Where available, the Patient Information Leaflet or Instructions for Use and the Summary of Product Characteristics should be updated to include warnings about the risk and how best to minimise it.

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and



- Additionally, MHRA is setting up a specific stakeholder group to make proposals for measures to promote education and awareness of this risk.

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response or do not feel that your request has been answered as you would expect, please contact us to discuss.

We also wish to take this opportunity to inform you that a formal complaints and internal review process is available, which will be managed by a FOI Appeals Officer.

This can be formally requested and must be done within a reasonable period of time (3 calendar months) from the date this response was issued.

Where you are not satisfied with the response to a request for information that falls within the Environmental Information Regulations, you should make a representation for a review to FOI Appeals Officer, sthelensccg.foi@nhs.net within 40 days of receipt of the response.

If you are not satisfied with our review under the Freedom of Information Act or the Environmental Information Regulations, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a review of your appeal decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted at;

ICO, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk

Should you need any further clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference.

Yours sincerely,



Angela Delea
Associate Director – Corporate Governance
NHS St Helens Clinical Commissioning Group