



**Liverpool**

**Clinical Commissioning Group**

Corporate Services

Level 4

The Department

Lewis's Building

2 Renshaw Street

Liverpool

L1 2SA

Ref: 67026

Email: [foi@liverpoolccg.nhs.uk](mailto:foi@liverpoolccg.nhs.uk)

7 July 2020

Dear

### **Re: Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on 24 June 2020 with regards to Apomorphine prescribing.

Request 1: I note from the link provided that virtually no Apomorphine is prescribed in your CCG, yet I am aware that these CCGs each have a normal distribution of Parkinson's patients.

<https://openprescribing.net/analyse/#org=CCG&numIds=0409010A0&denom=nothing&selectedTab=map>

Does your CCGs not permit the prescribing of Apomorphine? If not, can you explain the rationale behind this?

Response: **Liverpool CCG is part of the Pan Mersey Area Prescribing Committee (APC). The APC categorise Apomorphine as Amber Patient Retained which means it requires specialist initiation of prescribing. GPs can continue to prescribe at the request of a specialist once stabilisation of dose is achieved, but the patient must continue to be under specialist care as specialist input may be required.**  
<https://formulary.panmerseyapc.nhs.uk/chaptersSubDetails.asp?FormularySectionID=4&SubSectionRef=04.09.01&SubSectionID=B100&drugmatch=1601#1601>

**According to Openprescribing, in the year to April, 206 items of Apomorphine were prescribed by Liverpool GPs.**

<https://openprescribing.net/analyse/#org=CCG&orgIds=99A&numIds=0409010A0&denom=nothing&selectedTab=summary>

Request 2: I note that hospitals do prescribe Apomorphine. Could you confirm whether there is a pass through or another method for NHS Trusts to pass the costs back to CCGS? If not, since it is a tariff drug and the Trusts have no other funding method, are you in fact driving inequity or postcode prescribing by preventing the use of Apomorphine?

**Response: Liverpool and the other CCGs locally are part of an Acting as One arrangement, which means that we have block contracts with our trusts and PbR tariff doesn't apply. Within this we expect trusts to treat patients appropriately and within the local guidance.**

We wish to take this opportunity to inform you that a formal complaints and internal review procedure is available to applicants who are unhappy with responses provided to FOI requests. You can formally request an internal review within a reasonable period of time (2 calendar months) from the date this response was issued.

Where you are not satisfied with the decision of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) for a further review of that decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our complaints procedure in the first instance.

The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioners Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
[www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk)

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

Yours sincerely

Corporate Services Team  
NHS Liverpool CCG