

Date: 05/10/2016

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST FOI/013024 – Pharmacy medicines savings

For 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17, please indicate how you have delivered or plan to deliver savings on medicines in the example format shown in the table below. Where product switches have been made outside of contract lines, please indicate for which specific drugs. Regional or national contract savings do not need to be reported.

Year Scheme Approximate saving

2014-15 Switch from soluble to plain prednisolone. £10,000

2015-16 Biosimilar infliximab gainshare £15,000

2015-16 IV paracetamol restriction £2,000

2016-17 Biosimilar etanercept gainshare £10,000

We assume that finance or pharmacy departments will hold a summary of savings schemes for each year which should be readily accessible. We find it difficult to understand how Trusts are committed to making significant savings without keeping any records of how these savings are made. We also do not believe that these schemes are commercially sensitive as we are not asking for suppliers, quantities or prices - we are solely requesting high level figures for each scheme. If you are unable to provide this detail, please clarify the governance process by which savings are recorded and submitted to the finance department for review.

The Clinical Procurement team (Pharmacy Procurement Lead and a Clinical Pharmacist +/- specialist pharmacists) horizon scan potential medicines cost saving options at regular weekly meetings. If viable, fulfil the Trust Purchasing for Safety Policy and within CMU contracts are then approved. The optimisation (CIP) projects are discussed at the Trust and Health Economy Group, action plans are developed to safely roll out across the Trust and local Health Economy (if appropriate).

All CIP Schemes have a governance framework associated with them. Each director has oversight of a selection of the schemes. There are two weekly or monthly project review updates required to be completed from head of pharmacy, with regards to drug saving Projects. These are presented and talked about at monthly confirm and challenge meetings, where the Head of Pharmacy meets with the respective director.

The PIDs (Project initiation documents) which include the financials have to be updated at the end of each financial reporting period, before the Confirm and challenge meetings. The financials are updated by finance staff based on true and exact information at that time. A risk adjusted forecast is produced based on plans to achieve in the future months in that financial year. The forecast is driven from finance and service manager. There is a transformation

Executive committee meeting each month where directors feedback current position of each CIP scheme, and its forecast. It discusses escalation requirements for failing CIP schemes, or risky projected forecasted CIP saving schemes.