

Freedom of Information request 311-19

Request

Please find my FOI request below.

1. How much has it cost your NHS region in the years 2016, 2017, 2018 and to date of 2019 to issue prescriptions as a whole?
2. What are the top ten items prescribed in the above years?
3. How many prescriptions have been issued for Aspirin or Paracetamol in the above years?
4. What is the total cost of prescribing Aspirin and Paracetamol alone in the above years.

Response

1. The cost of reimbursement and procurement of medicines supplied via primary and secondary care in NHS Borders is listed below.

Year	Cost
2016	£32,073,908
2017	£32,955,440
2018	£32,045,050
2019	£10,626,042

2. Please find below the top ten items prescribed in the above years. Items are only available for Primary Care dispensing and include only those items submitted for payment.

2016	2017
OMEPRAZOLE 20 MG CAPS	OMEPRAZOLE 20 MG CAPS
ASPIRIN 75 MG DISPERSIBLE TABS	ASPIRIN 75 MG DISPERSIBLE TABS
SALBUTAMOL 100 MCG/DOSE 200 DOSE CFC FREE INHAL	SALBUTAMOL 100 MCG/DOSE 200 DOSE CFC FREE INHAL
PARACETAMOL 500 MG TABS	PARACETAMOL 500 MG TABS
SIMVASTATIN 40 MG TABS	BENDROFLUMETHIAZIDE 2.5 MG TABS
BENDROFLUMETHIAZIDE 2.5 MG TABS	SIMVASTATIN 40 MG TABS
SIMVASTATIN 20 MG TABS	SIMVASTATIN 20 MG TABS
METFORMIN HYDROCHLORIDE 500 MG TABS	AMLODIPINE 5 MG TABS
AMLODIPINE 5 MG TABS	METFORMIN HYDROCHLORIDE 500 MG TABS
LEVOTHYROXINE SODIUM 100 MICROGRAMS TABS	LEVOTHYROXINE SODIUM 100 MICROGRAMS TABS

2018	2019
OMEPRAZOLE 20 MG CAPS	OMEPRAZOLE 20 MG CAPS
ASPIRIN 75 MG DISPERSIBLE TABS	PARACETAMOL 500 MG TABS
SALBUTAMOL 100 MCG/DOSE 200 DOSE CFC FREE INHAL	SALBUTAMOL 100 MCG/DOSE 200 DOSE CFC FREE INHAL
PARACETAMOL 500 MG TABS	ASPIRIN 75 MG DISPERSIBLE TABS
AMLODIPINE 5 MG TABS	AMLODIPINE 5 MG TABS
BENDROFLUMETHIAZIDE 2.5 MG TABS	METFORMIN HYDROCHLORIDE 500 MG TABS
METFORMIN HYDROCHLORIDE 500 MG TABS	ATORVASTATIN 20 MG TABS
SIMVASTATIN 40 MG TABS	BENDROFLUMETHIAZIDE 2.5 MG TABS
SIMVASTATIN 20 MG TABS	SIMVASTATIN 40 MG TABS
LEVOTHYROXINE SODIUM 100 MICROGRAMS TABS	LEVOTHYROXINE SODIUM 100 MICROGRAMS TABS

3. Please find below the number of prescriptions that have been issued for Aspirin or Paracetamol in the above years:

Year	Items
2016	123,251
2017	118,032
2018	112,323
2019	36,170

4. The cost of reimbursement and procurement of aspirin and paracetamol supplied via primary and secondary care in NHS Borders is listed below.

Year	Cost
2016	£346,558
2017	£319,839
2018	£304,646
2019	£94,960

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk.

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **311-19** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.