

Freedom of Information request 378-19

Request

We are researchers from Anglia Ruskin University working on the flammability of skin emollient products when soaked into fabric. This work is in collaboration with West Yorkshire, Essex and Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service, the London Fire Brigade, St Andrews Centre for Plastic Surgery and Burns, the National Fire Chiefs Council and the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA).

In light of our work on this matter, we wish to understand how the warnings and advice produced because of our original research are now being implemented across health care services.

Therefore, please could we request answers to the following based upon the December 2018 MHRA report on emollient flammability:

1. Has this information provided by the MHRA been implemented across your Health Board to advise healthcare professionals?
2. How has this been implemented? Please also provide details of any future intentions.
3. Has this information provided by the MHRA been implemented across your Health Board to advise the public on how to use emollient skin products safely?
4. How has this been implemented? Please also provide details of any future intentions.

Response

1-2 NHS Borders do not hold this data therefore under Section 12 of the FOI(S)A 2002 we cannot provide. The MHRA warning will have been emailed to all health care professionals, but the email is controlled and distributed by the MHRA.

3-4 NHS Borders Pharmacy issue a copy of a warning/information leaflet with each supply of paraffin containing ointment. This warning will be repeated in a future Prescribing Bulletin. We do not hold data on how independent pharmacies implement this advice.

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 **378-19** 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.