



Vale of York
Clinical Commissioning Group

Your Ref: VOY 1224

1 September 2020

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Dear Sirs

Your Request for Information

I am writing in response to your recent request that we received on 24 August 2020 in which you requested the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Information Requested

Please tell me if from your NHS Local CCG office if you can offer if required by patients via special ordering application through NHS Local CCG, the following preventive and/or therapeutic prescription drugs found useful in medical research papers against Covid:

- 1) Favipiravir (Avigan)
- 2) Ivermectin
- 3) Famotidine (Pepcid Ac)
- 4) Hydroxychloroquin + Azithromycin + Zinc
- 5) Bcg vaccine

Response

I can confirm NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group holds the information you have requested as per the below.

Although the medicines above may have been shown to be useful in some medical research papers, the full clinical efficacy and safety is still to be established. These would all be considered unlicensed treatments for Covid. Doctors, dentists, independent prescriber nurses and pharmacist prescribers may all prescribe unlicensed treatments, if they:

- are satisfied that there is a sufficient evidence base and/or experience of using the medicine to show its safety and efficacy
- take responsibility for prescribing the medicine and for overseeing the patient's care, including monitoring and follow-up
- record the medicine prescribed and, where common practice is not being followed, the reasons for prescribing this medicine
- are following their professional codes and ethics of their statutory bodies, this would be the GMC for doctors. <https://www.gmc-uk.org/ethical-guidance/ethical-guidance-for-doctors/prescribing-and-managing-medicines-and-devices/prescribing-unlicensed-medicines>

I would not commonly see these being prescribed in primary care for covid, as there is no strong evidence base. However these treatments may be initiated in secondary care under specialist initiation or by the clinical trials team, if they deem it appropriate.

The information we have provided to you is copyrighted to NHS Vale of York CCG and provided to you free of charge for your personal use or for other specific uses permitted in the Copyright Act. If however you wish to use the information we have provided for any commercial purposes including the sale of the information to a third party then, under the Regulations on the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2005, you must ask us for permission to do so in respect of each specific piece of such information. If we do grant such permission this may involve a licensing arrangement which may attract a fee. Should you wish to apply for permission for commercial re-use under the Regulations you should write to the Freedom of Information Manager to the address above.

If you have any concerns about the way your request has been handled; the operation of the Publication Schemes, the response received, or the 'exemption' decision, you should, in the first instance, contact me to try to resolve them. If you are not happy with the outcome, you can write to our Accountable Officer at the address above, within 40 days from the date of our response, to make a request for an internal review.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can then write to the Information Commissioner:

FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Helpline telephone: 01625 545 745

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need any further assistance. You can find out more information about our Clinical Commissioning Group by visiting our website www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Team
NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group