

## Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

10 South Colonnade Canary Wharf London E14 4PU United Kingdom gov.uk/mhra

04 December 2023

FOI 23/847

Dear

Thank you for your information request, dated 6 November 2023, where you asked 3 questions. I have stated each question in full and the answer is below each question.

7. I would be very grateful if MHRA would kindly release information as to the identity of the "other potential stakeholders" referred to in Ms: Jolly's letter of 17.01.23. (F.Y.I. the NHS Community Wheelchair Services are not responsible for the wheelchairs allocated to residents by care homes, often from the care home's well-worn stock)

I can provide you with this information. As this is a list of potential stakeholders, it is not exhaustive, as we may find information to suggest that other organisations, not in this list, would be more appropriate to engage with, or may determine that some of the stakeholders in this list would not be appropriate to engage with on this matter.

As you are aware from previous responses, including our response to FOI 23/840, the MHRA has already had some engagement with CQC and the National Wheelchair Managers Forum. Other potential stakeholders may include: NHS England and the Devolved Administrations, RESMAG, the Medical Device Safety Officer (MDSO) network (which includes some members from care settings), the National Association of Medical Device Educators and Trainers (NAMDET), Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT), National Association for Safety & Health in Care Services (NASHiCS) and the Posture and Mobility Group (PMG UK).

8. In the light of the above-mentioned discussion between MHRA and CQC, what is the nature of the training provided to care home staff (carers, nurses, activities organisers etc.) in order to enable them to safely allocate wheelchairs to care home residents?

On 24 January 2023, the MHRA sent a response to questions you had relating to a Yellow Card you had submitted (subject: UPDATE MHRA Ref: 2022/012/002/501/005 - care homes consumers). This included detail on the communication the MHRA had with CQC regarding training of care home staff where



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CQC had confirmed that this area fell within their remit. The MHRA does not hold information on the nature of training provided to care home staff.

9. Please explain what exactly is meant by the above vague sentence related to "supporting professionals working in rehabilitation engineering". (the aberrations in the photos I sent MHRA are clearly not the work of rehab. engineers).

This request is asking for clarification on a previous response, which we are not required to provide under the Freedom of Information Act. However, we are providing our view on this in order to assist you and to be transparent.

The phrase "professionals working in rehabilitation engineering" was intended as an example of professionals who use, adapt or prescribe wheelchairs.

If you have a query about the information provided, please reply to this email.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date you receive this response and addressed to: <a href="mailto:info@mhra.gov.uk">info@mhra.gov.uk</a>

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you were to remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you would have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please bear in mind that the Information Commissioner will not normally review our handling of your request unless you have first contacted us to conduct an internal review. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Safety & Surveillance