

FOI 24/321 - Ethosuximiden

MHRA Customer Services <MHRACustomerServices@mhra.gov.uk>

Tue 30/04/2024 17:56

To [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your request under the Freedom of Information Act of 02 April 2024. You requested:

1. Please could you provide me with the information you have provided to GP's in Cheshire and Neurologists on the prescribing of Ethosuximide for patients with Epilepsy between January 2023 to 2nd April 2024?
2. What information and guidance has been provided to GP's in Cheshire and Neurology services on the changing of a patients brand of Ethosuximide between January 2023 and the 2nd April 2024.

On your first question, the situations in which we would provide information directly to GP Practices regarding prescribing of Ethosuximide would be via a National Patient Safety Alert, a medicine recall or notification, or if we included an article within our Drug Safety Update publication. For the timeframe you have asked about we have not issued any of these to GP Practices or Neurologists.

On your second question, as above, we have not issued anything ourselves. However, in accordance Section 16 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act we have a duty to provide advice and assistance. In this case we suggest that you may wish to check with NHS England and with the local NHS Integrated Care System in case they have issued any information or guidance directly.

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: info@mhra.gov.uk

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

Or online via: <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/foi-and-eir-complaints/foi-and-eir-complaints/>

Yours sincerely

MHRA Customer Experience Centre
Communications and engagement team
Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency
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