

Date 26/03/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 9792

Enquiries to Richard Mutch
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Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – CHLORHEXIDINE

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Chlorhexidine.

Question:

1. Would it be possible to provide me with a list of current Chlorhexidine in Alcohol products used specifically within Main Theatres and Day Surgery across the Health Board as a preoperative skin disinfection prior to invasive / surgical procedure.

Answer:

Products:

1. *Chlorhex 2% various sizes - 3ml, 10.5ml and 26ml.*
2. *Chlorhex 0.5% spray - 200ml*
3. *Chlorhex 0.5% bottle - 200ml*

Question:

2. Which percentage of Chlorhexidine in Alcohol is most frequently used throughout the Health Board in the Anaesthetic Rooms a 0.5% CHG or 2% CHG.

Answer:

Approximately 2%.

Question:

3. Are the Chlorhexidine in Alcohol products the Health Board currently use prior to invasive / surgical procedures classified as Licensed Medicinal Products or Biocides.

Answer:

Licensed as Medicinal Products - pharmacy only supply Medicines.

Question:

4. If using a BIOCIDES which is not licensed as a preoperative skin disinfectant on a patient prior to an invasive / surgical procedure are patients notified and do you seek consent from each patient to use a non-licensed product
If you are using a BIOCIDES, are your staff trained in the use of a BIOCIDES

Answer:

Not Applicable

I hope the information provided helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months of receipt of our review response. You can do this by using the Scottish Information Commissioner's Office online appeals service at www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal. If you remain dissatisfied with the Commissioner's response you then have the option to appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to the FOI Reviewer at the email address at the head of this letter. The review will be undertaken by a Reviewer who was not involved in the original decision-making process.

FOI responses (subject to redaction of personal information) may appear on NHS Lothian's Freedom of Information website at: <https://org.nhsllothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive