

Date 10 September 2026  
Your Ref  
Our Ref 11778

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Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – CHG

I write in response to your request for information in relation to chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) products.

### Question:

- Please provide the following information for the latest 12-month period **available** relating to the use of **4% chlorhexidine gluconate (CHG) products** within your Trust.  
For all 4% chlorhexidine products used for patient decolonisation, skin antisepsis, surgical hand antisepsis or surgical scrubbing, please provide:
  - Product brand name
  - Manufacturer/supplier
  - Pack size
  - Total quantity purchased during the period (units, bottles, litres, cartridges, sachets, etc.)
  - Total annual spend (£)

### Answer:

For the period April 2025 - March 2026, the pharmacy supplied quantities are:

- Chlorhexidine Gluconate Solution 500ml pack = 4,183 packs
- Chlorhexidine Gluconate Solution 500ml PP pack = 900 packs

We are not required to release the expenditure on this product since this would disclose commercially confidential pricing contractual agreements.

Section 33(1)(b) – Substantial prejudice to commercial interests. Information is exempt under section 33(1)(b) if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice substantially the commercial interests of any person. “Person” includes a public authority, company and partnership.

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](http://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  
Enc.