

FOI REF: 25/282

6th May 2025

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

Use of Sodium Chloride and Levofloxacin in Ophthalmology:

The figures below are from April 2024 – March 2025.

- **What is your usage of sodium chloride 5% (10ml) units in the last 12 months?**

0.
- **Who have been your suppliers of sodium chloride 5% (10ml) units during the past 12 months?**

AAH.
- **What price does your trust pay for Sodium Chloride 5% (10ml units)?**

Section 17 Notice of Refusal – Section 43(2) applied, please see below:

Whilst the Trust holds the information requested, in respect of the price for Sodium Chloride 5% (10 ml units) and Levofloxacin preservative free unit dose, it is applying a Section 43(2) exemption in relation to this part of the request as the release of the information is likely to prejudice its commercial interests.

In applying the exemption consideration has been given to the public interest in enabling scrutiny of public sector decision making and the general public interest in accountability and transparency.

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We have concluded that sharing commercials could disadvantage the incumbent supplier against their competitors. The information could provide competitors with the suppliers pricing, which could result in these suppliers obtaining a competitive advantage which could result in the Trust not obtaining best value for money.

In this instance, we consider that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than the public interest in disclosing the information.

- **What is your usage of Levofloxacin preservative free unit dose units in the last 12 months?**

0.

- **Who have been your suppliers of Levofloxacin preservative free unit dose units during the past 12 months?**

AAH.

- **What price does your trust pay for Levofloxacin preservative free unit dose?**

Section 17 Notice of Refusal – Section 43(2) applied. Please refer to page 1.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

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

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net