

Date: 16 July 2025  
Our ref: K: FOI/Ref: 2025-000187  
Email: [NSS.DevServicesFOI@nhs.scot](mailto:NSS.DevServicesFOI@nhs.scot)

Dear [REDACTED]

**Freedom of Information Reference: FOI-2025-000187 – Medicinal products and biocides.**

I refer to your freedom of information request that we received on 24 June 2025 requesting the following information.

**Please may you provide a breakdown of the following data for the last three financial years (2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25) for skin antisepsis purchased through your supply chain. The brands can include both licensed medicinal products and biocides with the same active ingredients.**

- 1. Top 5 suppliers of skin antisepsis per year (by volume)**
- 2. Volume sold per year per active ingredient (as below)**
  - a. 0.5% chlorhexidine**
  - b. 2% chlorhexidine**
  - c. 4% chlorhexidine**
  - d. Aqueous chlorhexidine solution**
  - e. 5% povidone iodine**
  - f. 7.5% povidone iodine**
  - g. 10% povidone iodine**
- 3. Total spend on chlorhexidine-based products per year**
- 4. Total spend on povidone-iodine products per year**

We have now completed the search of our records and can provide you with the following information:

Under Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Scotland Act 2002 (FOISA), an organisation is not required to provide information if it does not hold it. NHS National Services Scotland (NSS) does not hold the requested information. National Distribution Services (NDS) part of NSS does not hold the licenses required for storing these products therefore have not purchased any through our supply chain.

I trust you will find the information of assistance and if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you are unhappy with any aspect of how we have dealt with your request, you can make representations to us asking us to review the handling of your request. Please write to the Associate Director Governance and Board Services (Board Secretary) at the email address [nss.foi@nhs.scot](mailto:nss.foi@nhs.scot) within 40 working days of the date of this correspondence.



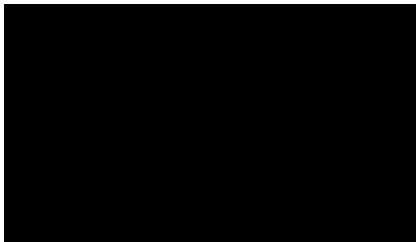
Chair  
Chief Executive Keith Redpath  
Mary Morgan

*NHS National Services Scotland is the common name of the  
Common Services Agency for the Scottish Health Service*

If after a review you are still unhappy, you also have the right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at Kinburn Castle, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS, or via their [online application form](#).

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me at the above address.

Yours sincerely,



Chair                      Keith Redpath  
Chief Executive        Mary Morgan

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