



Our Ref: PW/AKB/FOI-09-101

Stafford Education & Enterprise Park
Weston Road
Stafford
ST18 0BF

8th September 2022

AGEPHA Pharma

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear

FOI FOI-09-101:
Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your request dated the 5th September 2022. We can confirm that Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board does hold the information that you have requested. Please see our responses in blue below / attached:

Agepha Pharmaceuticals has Aciclovir Agepha 3% eye ointment available in the UK for herpetic keratitis. At present there is no other Aciclovir available in the UK, since Zovirax GSK was discontinued in 2018.

We would therefore like to reach out and ask if the product is available in the formulary and if not what's the procedural inclusion steps into the formulary, which will allow healthcare professionals to prescribe Aciclovir.

I would be grateful if you could forward my Email to the relevant department or share the contact details of whom I should contact.

The ICB Medicines Optimisation Team is already in discussions with the University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust (UHNM) Ophthalmology Team Specialists to determine the place in therapy of this preparation on the Staffordshire formularies. Discussions / papers are then taken to the Area Prescribing Committee and Group in Common (APCG) to determine formulary inclusion and if included, to then assign a Red/Amber/Green (RAG) rating.

Please refer to the Staffordshire formularies webpages for contact methods for any formulary queries. Links to the website as follows:

[South Staffordshire Joint Formulary Formulary](#)

[North Staffordshire Joint Formulary Formulary](#)

Right of Appeal

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response please do not hesitate to contact us. If you are dissatisfied with the response, you are entitled to request an internal review which should be formally requested in writing and must be within two calendar months from the date this response was issued.

To request an internal review

You can request an internal review by contacting the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board FOI team by emailing the team at StaffsStokeFOI@staffsstoke.icb.nhs.uk or by post to the address at the top of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board FOI complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Paul Winter
Deputy Director of Corporate Governance,
Compliance & Data Protection/Data Protection Officer