

**RESPONSE QUESTIONNAIRE TO CONSULTATION ON**

**PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE NORTHERN IRELAND**

**DRUG TARIFF FOR WOUND CARE MANAGEMENT PRODUCTS**

**MARCH 2016**

**RESPONDING TO THE CONSULTATION**

You can respond to the consultation document by e-mail or letter. If this document is not in a format that suits your needs, please contact us and we can discuss alternative arrangements. Before you submit your response, please read Annex A about the effect of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on the confidentiality of responses to public consultation exercises.

Responses should be sent to:

Written: Medicines Policy Group

DHSSPS

Room D3.1

Castle Buildings

Stormont Estate

Belfast, BT4 3SQ

Tel: (028) 9052 0224

Email: communitypharmacy@dhsspsni.gov.uk

**Responses must be received no later than 5pm on Friday 20 May 2016**

I am responding: as an individual

 on behalf of an organisation

 (please tick a box)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: |  |
| Job Title: |  |
| Organisation: |  |
| Address: |  |
|  |  |
| Tel: |  |
| Fax: |  |
| e-mail: |  |

**Background**

This consultation seeks views on proposals to populate the Northern Ireland Drug Tariff for wound care management products.

Details of the proposals are set out in the consultation document which can be accessed on the Department’s website: [**https://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/consultations**](https://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/consultations)

**The consultation questionnaire**

The questionnaire can be completed by an individual health professional, stakeholder or member of the public, or it can be completed on behalf of a group or organisation.

Part A: provides an opportunity to answer questions relating to specific proposals.

Part B: provides an opportunity for respondents to give additional feedback relating to any equality or human rights implications.

**Part A**

**Feedback on Proposals**

**Q1. Do you agree that the STEPSelect methodology should be used to populate the Northern Ireland Drug Tariff for wound care products.**

**Strongly agree Agree Neither agree or disagree Disagree Strongly disagree**

Comments. If you disagree or strongly disagree, please indicate your preferred mechanism for populating the Drug Tariff

**Q2. Have you any suggestions on an alternative selection methodology?**

Comments:

**Q3. Have you comments on how the application of the alternative/exception protocol could be improved?**

|  |
| --- |
| Comments: |

**Q4. Have you any other comments on the proposals to populate the Northern Ireland Drug Tariff for wound care products?**

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| --- |
| Comments: |

**Part B**

**Equality and Human Rights**

Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires departments in carrying out their functions relating to Northern Ireland to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity:

* between persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation;
* between men and women generally;
* between person with a disability and persons without; and
* between persons with dependants and persons without.

In addition, without prejudice to the above obligation, Departments should also, in carrying out their functions relating to Northern Ireland, have due regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group.

In accordance with guidance produced by the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland and in keeping with Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, the Framework has been equality screened and a preliminary decision has been taken that a full EQIA is not required.

Departments also have a statutory duty to ensure that their decisions and actions are compatible with the Human Rights Act 1998 and to act in accordance with these rights.

**Q5. Is the preferred option set out in the consultation document likely to have an adverse impact on any of the nine equality groups identified under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998?   If yes, please state the group(s) and provide comment on how these adverse impacts could be reduced or alleviated in the proposals.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  |  No |  |

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| --- |
| Comments: |

**Q6. Are you aware of any indication or evidence – qualitative or quantitative – that the preferred option set out in the consultation document may have an adverse impact on equality of opportunity or on good relations?  If yes, please give details and comment on what you think should be added or removed to alleviate the adverse impact.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  |  No |  |

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| --- |
| Comments: |

**Q7. Is there an opportunity to better promote equality of opportunity or good relations? If yes, please give details as to how.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  |  No |  |

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| --- |
| Comments: |

**Q8. Are there any aspects of the proposals where potential human rights violations may occur?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Yes |  |  No |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Comments: |

**Please return your response questionnaire.**

**Responses must be received no later than 5pm on Friday 20 May 2016**

**Thank you for your comments.**

 **Annex A
Freedom of Information Act 2000 – confidentiality OF consultationS**

The Department may publish a summary of responses following completion of the consultation process. Your response, and all other responses to the consultation, may be disclosed on request. The Department can only refuse to disclose information in exceptional circumstances. **Before** you submit your response, please read the paragraphs below on the confidentiality of consultations and they will give you guidance on the legal position about any information given by you in response to this consultation.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 gives the public a right of access to any information held by a public authority, namely, the Department in this case. This right of access to information includes information provided in response to a consultation. The Department cannot automatically consider as confidential information supplied to it in response to a consultation. However, it does have the responsibility to decide whether any information provided by you in response to this consultation, including information about your identity should be made public or be treated as confidential. **If you do not wish information about your identity to be made public, please include an explanation in your response.**

This means that information provided by you in response to the consultation is unlikely to be treated as confidential, except in very particular circumstances. The Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs’ Code of Practice on the Freedom of Information Act provides that:

* The Department should only accept information from third parties in confidence, if it is necessary to obtain that information in connection with the exercise of any of the Department’s functions, and it would not otherwise be provided;
* The Department should not agree to hold information received from third parties “in confidence” which is not confidential in nature; and
* Acceptance by the Department of confidentiality provisions must be for good reasons, capable of being justified to the Information Commissioner.

For further information about confidentiality of responses please contact the Information Commissioner’s Office (or see the web site at: <https://ico.org.uk/>)