

Reference: FOI.ICB-2324/249

Subject: Medicines Optimisation Procurement

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act about your organisation’s plans for medicines optimisation, following the national guidance published by NHSE earlier this year. (https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/national-medicines-optimisation-opportunities-2023-24/#1-addressing-problematic-polypharmacy)</p> <p>Please complete the below FOI questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the value of your organisation's planned savings opportunity from medicines procurement for 23/24? 2. What are the biggest areas of spend within medicines procurement* the organisation expects to make the largest savings in? <p>*Medicines procurement spend areas could include secondary care medicines, Ophthalmology and Blood glucose and ketone meters</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For primary care the ICB have ongoing work in all the NHS England medicines opportunities area. Plans are being worked through, but savings can be challenging to quantify for some areas. The following savings have been quantified for 23/24: Blood glucose and ketone meters - £262,728 Low Value Medicines - £33,475 <p>For secondary care the ICB has worked collaboratively with local trusts to identify savings opportunities in gastroenterology, rheumatology and ophthalmology through increasing uptake of biosimilars as they are approved for NHS and maximising reductions in drug prices. This has been implemented and most savings have been realised. Remaining savings are challenging to verify.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The biggest areas of spend for prescribing budget is diabetes and anticoagulation.

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 24 October 2023 and has been approved for release by Rosi Shepherd, Chief Nursing Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.