



Access to Public Information Request

Date of receipt: 6th August 2020

Date of response: 24th August 2020

Annual GP medication prescription item numbers and patient numbers

Request:

Please provide the annual GP medication prescription item numbers and patient numbers around various drugs for 2019:

Chronic Pain (Inclusive of Opioids):

- * Buprenorphine patches
- * Fentanyl patches
- * Oxycodone caps
- * Oxycodone tabs + MR tabs
- * Oxycodone + naloxone (Targinact)
- * Tramadol caps + MR Caps
- * Pregabalin
- * Gabapentin (for pain)

Intractable nausea and vomiting

- * Ondansetron

Spasticity

- * Baclofen
- * Benzos: ie Diazepam, Clonazepam

Anxiety

- * SSRI's (eg Sertraline, Fluoxetine)
- * SNRI's (eg Venlafaxine, duloxetine)
- * Pregabalin
- * Benzos: ie Diazepam, Lorazepam

Sleeping

*zolpidem

*zopiclone

Response:

Further to your request made under the Code of Practice on Access to Public Information, the following response (and attached information) is from the States of Guernsey Prescribing Adviser:

The document attached provides the item numbers and patients numbers where known.

Please note that a number of the prescription items are not available at public expense in Guernsey and Alderney.

You have asked for data based on medications prescribed for specific conditions. Whilst we collect data on the drug, doctor, prescribing organisation and dispensing organisation, we do not collate data linking prescribing with diagnosis. All of the drugs are used for a variety of indications. For example:

SSRIs and SNRIs are licensed for numerous indications: to treat anxiety and depressive illness, for panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorders, bulimia nervosa, menopausal symptoms such as hot flushes in women who have had breast cancer, post-traumatic stress disorder, diabetic neuropath, stress urinary incontinence, abdominal pain or discomfort in patients who have not responded to other treatments, neuropathic pain, migraine prophylaxis, phobia and obsessional states, added into treatment of cataplexy for people with narcolepsy. It is not possible to identify how many patients were prescribed these drugs for anxiety and how many for the other indications – hence the N/A in the attached document.