

Our Ref: FOI ID 49685

25 July 2018

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## Re: Freedom of Information Request

Please find below the response to your recent Freedom of Information request regarding the use of bisphosphonates to prevent the spread of breast cancer within NHS Southport and Formby CCG.

### Request/Response:

1. Does your CCG routinely fund the provision of bisphosphonates for postmenopausal women with primary breast cancer to reduce the risk of their cancer spreading to other parts of the body?

NHS Southport and Formby CCG have not received a business case from any of our local trusts requesting to use these drugs for this purpose. As a result this is not something we have specifically addressed so have not specifically made a decision to either fund or not fund and it is anticipated that there may well be some local trusts using the drugs for this purpose.

This is neither a licensed indication nor a NICE recommended treatment and as such is not something our Area Prescribing Committee has been asked to prioritise.

2. If your CCG does routinely fund bisphosphonates to reduce the risk of primary breast cancer spreading to other parts of the body, but is not routinely funding them for all postmenopausal women, how is eligibility defined? For example, women at increased risk of recurrence.

Please refer to answer for question 1

3. If your CCG does routinely fund bisphosphonates for postmenopausal women to reduce the risk of primary breast cancer spreading to other parts of the body, which bisphosphonates is it funding? For example, zoledronic acid, ibandronic acid, sodium clodronate.

Please refer to answer for question 1

4. If your CCG does not routinely fund bisphosphonates for postmenopausal women to reduce the risk of primary breast cancer spreading to other parts of the body, what are its reasons for not doing so?

NHS Southport and Formby CCG have not received a business case from any of our local trusts requesting to use these drugs for this purpose. As a result this is not something we have specifically addressed so have not specifically made a decision to either fund or not fund.

Funding is via our commissioning of secondary care. You may want to redirect your query to the providers

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