

Reference: FOI.ICB-2526/346

Subject: Primary Care Rebate Schemes

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

QUESTION	RESPONSE		
<p>Could you please let me know which active primary care rebate schemes your organisation are currently signed up to?</p> <p>Could you please provide the start and end dates of the contracts</p>	Rebate Product	Start date	End date
	Adcal D3	01/04/2018	Until termination
	Butech	01/04/2021	30/04/2026
	Clenil	01/07/2022	30/06/2027
	Espranor	28/11/2023	31/12/2025
	Fostair NEXThaler	01/10/2023	31/03/2026
	Fostair pMDI	01/10/2023	31/03/2026
	FreeStyle Libre	01/09/2022	30/06/2026
	Gatalin XL	01/12/2023	30/11/2026
	Glucophage	01/07/2022	Until termination
	Pipexus	01/11/2019	Until termination
	Prostap	Dates deemed commercially sensitive*	
	Sevodyne	01/08/2025	31/07/2027
	Staladex	01/04/2025	31/10/2027
	Stexerol	01/10/2018	Until termination
	Strivit	01/04/2021	31/03/2026
	Xaggitin	01/04/2018	Until termination

*The ICB has applied Section 43(2) (Information prejudice to commercial interests) to the response. The public interest arguments in favour of disclosing the information include the ICB's responsibility to be transparent and accountable in its decision making. The ICB policy for Sponsorship of Activities by and Joint Working with the Pharmaceutical Industry outlines the values the ICB adheres to when working with the pharmaceutical industry and this includes the principle for the ICB to promote confidence between staff, patients and the public through transparency of NHS activities. The policy also outlines that information relating to rebate schemes is disclosable under the FOI Act and only information considered commercially sensitive should be redacted.

The public interest arguments in favour of maintaining the exemption includes the agreement signed by the ICB which confirms the information as commercially sensitive and the subsequent confirmation of this from the contract holder as well as their reasoning for why they consider the information commercially sensitive. Rebate schemes allow organisations to offer a financial rebate to the ICB, and these schemes are considered on clinical, financial and contractual grounds and will only be considered if the medicines are appropriate and of value to the ICB population. The ICB has considered that disclosure of the information may lead to the contract holder not offering this type of scheme again which may result in the ICB having to spend more public funds on prescribing. The ICB has a responsibility to secure the best use of public resources and provide value for money.

	<p>The ICB has considered the balance of both disclosing the information and maintaining the exemption and believes that it is in the public's best interest to apply the exemption. The ability for organisations to offer rebate schemes to the ICB reduces the amount of public funding used for prescribing and allows for the more effective use of resources to ensure that the ICB achieves value for money.</p>
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The information provided in this response is accurate as of 7 January 2025 and has been approved for release by Dr Joanne Medhurst, Chief Medical Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.