Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – ENOXAPARIN

I write in response to your email request of 26 March 2009 for information in relation to prescribing of the drug Enoxaparin.

I have been provided with information to help answer your request by Ewan Morrison, Lead Pharmacist, South East of Scotland Cancer Network – NHS Lothian.

- Who were the manufacturers of the drug and what was its batch number and the batch number of the dose given to our client.

Enoxaparin is a low molecular weight heparin product that has been used for a number of years in a large number of patients in NHS Scotland. The product is still under patent and is marketed in the United Kingdom under the brand name Clexane®. This brand is currently marketed by Rhone-Poulenc Rorer a subsidiary of Sanofi-Aventis. The company address is;

Sanofi-Aventis Ltd
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4YS

The batch numbers for this type of product are not recorded for this medicine. It comes as a pre-filled syringe which is then removed from its packing and administered immediately by subcutaneous injection.

Your client was administered Enoxaparin during both visits to the Breast Unit at the Edinburgh Cancer Centre. 20mg was administered subcutaneously once daily on four occasions in relation to the 2005 treatment and on two occasions in relation to the 2006 treatment.

- Any report prepared after enquiries into the effects of the administration of this drug on our client and others.

No report has been produced directly in relation to any issues with the administration of enoxaparin to your client or others. As per Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 formally I must inform you that NHS Lothian do not hold this information.
In July 2008 a clinical paper was published from work that was carried out in the Edinburgh Breast Unit which considers the use of heparin products in patients who have undergone Breast surgery. I enclose a copy.

Hardy RG, Williams L, Dixon JM. Edinburgh Breast Unit, Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, UK.
Use of enoxaparin results in more haemorrhagic complications after breast surgery than unfractionated heparin.

• Copies of any test results on the batch of the drug.

This information is not available to NHS Lothian. Physical testing of a product would be carried out by the company who market the product or the Medicines and Healthcare products regulatory agency. As per Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 formally I must inform you that NHS Lothian do not hold this information.

NHS Lothian did not complete any tests on any batch of enoxaparin during July 2006 to December 2006. As per Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 formally I must inform you that NHS Lothian do not hold this information.

• Copies of any correspondence whether by letter or by e-mail between NHS Lothian and the manufacturers of the drug.

There was no correspondence between NHS Lothian and the manufacturers of this product during July 2006 to December 2006 regarding any batch related issues. As per Section 17 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 formally I must inform you that NHS Lothian do not hold this information.

I hope this information helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to Mr I Whyte, FOI Reviewer at the address at the foot of this letter. The review will be undertaken by Mr Whyte as he was not involved in the original decision making process.

Yours sincerely

ALAN BOYTER  
Director of Human Resources and Organisational Development  
Cc: Chief Executive