

Reference:	FOI.20305.26
Subject:	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) shared care guidance
Date of Request:	27 April 2026

Requested:

Please provide the following:

1. Copies of any current policies, guidance documents, protocols, or position statements issued by Hywel Dda University Health Board to GP practices relating to:
 - a. Shared care arrangements for ADHD medications (including but not limited to methylphenidate, lisdexamfetamine, dexamfetamine, and atomoxetine)
 - b. Transfer of prescribing responsibility from secondary care to primary care for ADHD
2. If no formal shared care protocol currently exists, please provide:
 - a. Any interim guidance, internal communications, or position statements issued to GP practices regarding ADHD prescribing or shared care
 - b. Any documents outlining the expected role of GPs in ADHD medication prescribing
3. Any policies or guidance relating to the acceptance or refusal of shared care requests, including:
 - a. Whether GP practices are permitted or encouraged to decline shared care for ADHD
 - b. Any criteria or conditions under which shared care should be accepted or refused
4. Any guidance relating specifically to private ADHD diagnoses, including:
 - a. Whether GP practices are advised to accept or decline shared care arrangements originating from private providers
 - b. Any requirements for NHS reassessment prior to prescribing
5. Details of any planned, draft, or in-development shared care protocols for ADHD, including:
 - a. Current status
 - b. Expected publication or implementation timeline
 - c. Any draft versions (if available)
6. Any equality impact assessments (EqIA), reviews, or analyses undertaken in relation to:
 - a. ADHD services
 - b. ADHD prescribing policies
 - c. Shared care arrangements for ADHD

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) does not hold all of the information requested as it does not have shared care arrangements in place for children and young people (CYP) with ADHD. However, the UHB provides the information it holds for adults.

1. The UHB provides copies of the protocol and guidelines relating to shared care arrangements for adults with ADHD at the following attachments:
 - Attachment 1 - Shared Care Agreement Form Consultant Request protocol
 - Attachment 2 - Adult ADHD Service Specification and Prescribing Guidelines

The UHB is withholding the signatures contained within attachment 1. This decision has been made as it is not within the reasonable expectations of these individuals that their personal signatures, would be released into the public domain by the UHB, redactions have been applied accordingly.

This information is classed as personal data of a third party. Therefore, it is being withheld in accordance with the exemption set out in section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FoIA), by virtue of section 40(3)(a) of the FoIA, which permits a public authority to withhold personal data other than the requestor's where the disclosure would breach Data Protection principles.

This information is protected by the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA)/UK General Data Protection Regulations (UK GDPR), as its disclosure would constitute unfair and unlawful processing and would be contrary to the principles and articles of the UK GDPR. This exemption is absolute and therefore, there is no requirement to apply the public interest test.

In reaching this decision, the DPA and UK GDPR define personal data as data that relates to a living individual who can be identified solely from that data or from that data and other information, which is in the possession of the data controller.

2. Not applicable.
3. The UHB does not hold policies or guidance relating to the acceptance or refusal of shared care requests. GPs are entitled to decline shared care arrangements for individuals registered with their practice. However, the adult ADHD Service have worked closely with Primary Care Services to develop an Enhanced Service which provides funding for GP surgeries to continue prescribing and undertake appropriate monitoring of medication for ADHD.
4. The UHB does not hold a guidance for patients with a private diagnosis. All adult patients who receive a diagnosis with a private provider are required to have their assessments ratified by the adult ADHD Service to ensure the diagnosis has been given in line with National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidance.

Additionally, the Community Paediatrics Service does not accept private ADHD diagnoses for CYP for the purpose of initiating or continuing NHS prescribing, as clinicians are not able to ratify diagnoses made by private providers.

5. The UHB does not hold the requested information.
6. The UHB provides a copy of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) for the Adult ADHD Service Specification and Prescribing Guidelines, at Attachment 3.