

Ref no: 415071217
From: Commercial
Date: 07/12/17
Subject: Pharmaceutical samples of licensed medicines

REQUEST

- 1) Please confirm if the Institution accepts pharmaceutical samples of licensed medicines (i.e. sample packs provided free of charge)?
- 2) If it does, please confirm whether the Institution also accepts “cold chain” samples? If it does, is there any restriction on pack size?
- 3) Does the Institution have a formal policy relating to the receipt of samples in either of the above cases? If yes, please can you provide an electronic copy of this policy?
- 4) Excluding samples, are there any other circumstances or criteria under which the Institution would accept free of charge licensed medicines?

RESPONSE

1. The Trust accepts free samples of medicines for professional use as per the extract of the Trust’s Medicines Policy.
2. There is no restriction on cold chain supplies nor pack size.
3. See extract from the Trust’s Medicines Policy below
4. Supplies of medicines are sometimes made available through patient access schemes – such schemes are sometimes required as part of the NICE approval.

Free samples of medicines for professional use

All free samples provided by drug companies for use within the Trust must be authorised by the Drug and Therapeutics Committee and issued through the Pharmacy Department. Any samples supplied directly to clinicians must be provided to pharmacy for assessment before they are made available for patient use.