Our Ref: FOI.13.DGS0146

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 received on 9 December 2013 by NHS Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley Clinical Commissioning Group. The information you have requested is listed below together with the response:

**Freedom of information request: availability of ocriplasmin (Jetrea) for the treatment of vitreomacular traction (VMT)**

1) **Is ocriplasmin routinely available for prescription to eligible patients following the publication of the guidance on 23rd October 2013?**

   The CCG is aware of its responsibility to fund specified NICE recommendations from a date no longer than three months from the publication and its obligation to implement TA297 by 31 January 2014.

2) **Has ocriplasmin been incorporated into your local formulary?**

   No, please see answer to Q1.

3) **Following Sir David Nicholson’s letter to NHS Chief Executives in August 2012 confirming the 1st April 2013 deadline for the introduction of the NHS Compliance Regime for Technology Appraisals, are you planning to publish information on whether the technology guidance for ocriplasmin has been adopted onto the local formulary?**

   ‘Kent and Medway High Cost Drugs’ (HCD) manual describes the arrangements for the management of high cost drugs across Kent and Medway. The HCD manual can be found here: [http://www.kentandmedway.nhs.uk/welcome/for-professionals/prescribing/](http://www.kentandmedway.nhs.uk/welcome/for-professionals/prescribing/)

   **If so, when are you planning to publish it?**

   The formulary will be updated no later than 31 January 2014.

4) **Has your organisation informed ophthalmologists, and other relevant clinicians, in your area, about the new NICE guidance on ocriplasmin?**

   The Prescribing Group has acute Trust representation and there is an acute Trust formulary committee at which publication of NICE guidance is shared. It is known that ophthalmologists are aware of new NICE guidance on ocriplasmin because there have been preliminary discussions regarding the drug being considered by NICE.