

Please find attached the response on behalf of NHS Western Isles in relation to Petition PE1566, for your information.

- (i) Does your NHS Board have a protocol, e.g. a service delivery model or similar policy, on self-testing and self-management for warfarin patients?

NHSWI does not have a protocol or service delivery model. This is due to the fact that all practices work in very different circumstances and each develops its own protocols although there is a community of sharing within primary care of 'best practice' methodologies.

- (ii) What guidance and training does your NHS Board provide to its NHS staff on self-testing and self-management for warfarin patients and is its implementation monitored?

NHSWI provides no specific training. As in answer one this is due to the set up within primary care.

- (iii) What is your NHS Board doing to promote self-testing and self-management amongst its warfarin patients? If it does not promote self-testing and self-management, please explain the reasoning behind this decision.

NHSWI does not specifically promote self testing. Each individual practice has adopted its own approach to highlighting the option of self testing. There is no set model and the costs of equipment is a factor in helping decision making (hardware costs).

- (iv) What protocol, guidance or measures are in place in paediatric hospitals or paediatric care facilities in your area to provide support for warfarin patients who move from paediatric to adult services? Is there any oversight of this process, especially in circumstances where an individual is moving between different NHS Board areas, and what training or guidance is provided to staff on this issue?

NHSWI has very limited Paediatric care facilities on the Island Chain. In common with the above answers, the management of anticoagulation in Paediatric patients still comes under the remit of primary care

- (v) How many warfarin patients are there within your authority and, of those, how many self-test and/or self-monitor?

At present there are approximately 500 patients on warfarin therapy (15-20:1000 as a rough estimate). This level varies particularly due to the introduction and changing indications of other new blood thinning drugs. A review of practices suggests that there are just 2 known patients currently performing self monitoring.

Sent on behalf of Gordon Jamieson, Chief Executive, NHS Western Isles