



Medicines & Healthcare products
Regulatory Agency

MHRA Central Freedom of
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[MHRA Website](https://www.mhra.gov.uk)

Our Ref: **FOI2026/00597**

9 June 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FoI) request received on 4 June. You wrote:

Please provide the following information held by your organisation for the period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2025.

For this request, "nasal tanning products" includes products described, labelled, marketed or recorded as nasal tanning sprays, tanning nasal sprays, tanning drops, Melanotan, Melanotan II, MT2, or any similar intranasal tanning product.

Please provide:

- 1. The total number of incidents, investigations, detentions, seizures, forfeitures, removals from sale, or enforcement actions involving nasal tanning products.*
- 2. The total number of nasal tanning products seized, detained, forfeited, or removed from sale.*
- 3. A yearly breakdown of the figures in points 1 and 2.*
- 4. If held, a breakdown by product description or recorded name and active ingredient or suspected active ingredient.*
- 5. Any recorded total estimated value of seized, detained, forfeited, or removed nasal tanning products.*

If your authority does not hold some of the information requested, please provide the information you do hold and clearly mark any fields that are not recorded.

If the request exceeds the appropriate cost limit, please advise how it may be refined. I would prefer to receive partial information rather than have the request refused in full.

Please provide the information in CSV or Excel format where possible.

MHRA Response

We confirm that we hold the information you have requested.

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) is the UK regulator responsible for protecting public health by ensuring that medicines, medical devices, and blood components for transfusion meet appropriate standards of safety, quality, and effectiveness.

The MHRA is required to determine whether products are medicines on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the definition of a medicine in the Human Medicines Regulations 2012, relevant case law, and any other evidence.

Tan enhancing nasal products which are clearly marketed for self-tanning purposes and which do not have a medical purpose do not fall under medicines regulations and are not within the MHRA's remit.

Consequently, the MHRA will only act where there is information to suggest that the product is being sold, supplied, advertised, or promoted accompanied by medicinal claims.

The total number of doses seized are given below

2021	0
2022	0
2023	6
2024	0
2025	1

Our records indicate that we received the following number of referrals concerning "nasal tanning products". A referral does not mean that we assessed the products to be medicinal and does not indicate that we took any enforcement action.

2021	10
2022	9
2023	12
2024	14
2025	9

The value of a dose of medicine is subjective and influenced by many variables. When assessing the value of a dose of medicine we use the figure suggested by INTERPOL of US\$3 (approximately £2:20).

Where appropriate, enforcement action in respect of nasal tanning products is taken by Local Authority Trading Standards Teams.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team
Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing foi.request@mhra.gov.uk or by writing to: MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team, 10 South, Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London, E14 4PU

Any request for an internal review must be received by us within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please note we are not obliged to provide a review if it is requested after more than 40 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Website: [ICO FOI and EIR complaints](#) or telephone 0303 123 1113.

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<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>