

# Putting a price on fridge enquiries – how Medicines Information can reduce wastage and associated financial costs following improper storage of fridge and freezer lines

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### Introduction & Method

Incorrect storage of fridge/freezer lines, and the associated medicines safety and financial implications, is a common problem within the NHS.

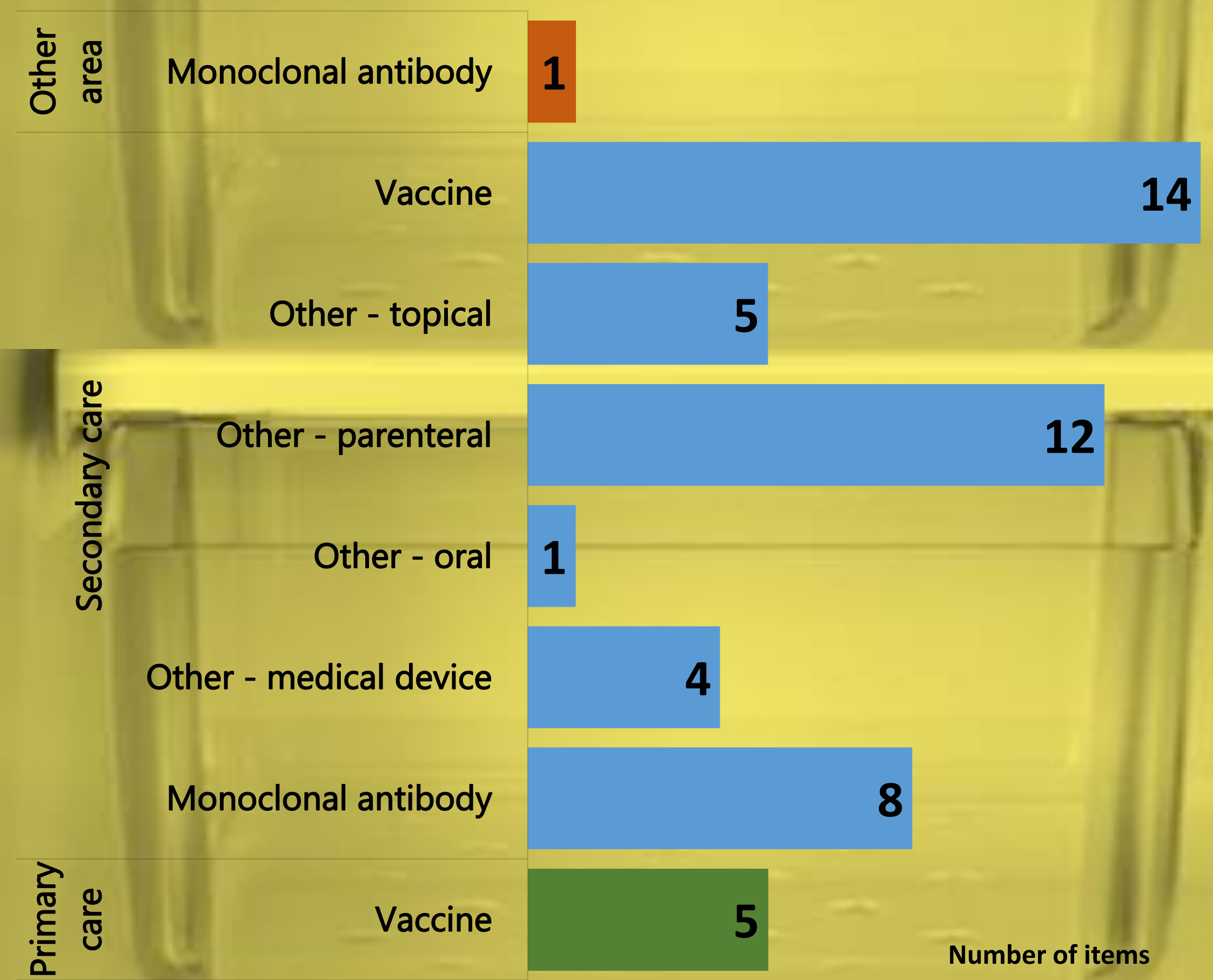
Enquiries documented on ABUHB MiDatabank between May 2017 and April 2018 were reviewed.

### Results – Clinical

Queries relating to incorrect storage of fridge/freezer lines accounted for 11% of the enquiries reviewed.

In 24 out of 31 enquiries (77%), advice was provided which supported continued use of affected products.

### Enquiry Origin and Type of Medication



### Results – Costs

The cost of the items found to be suitable for use was calculated using the secondary care acquisition price.

The total acquisition cost of the 399 individual items identified as being **suitable for use** was **£56,858.14**.

### Discussion

Analysis of the data has identified target areas to reduce medicines wastage in the future.

Collection of financial data relating to fridge/freezer queries could allow MI services to demonstrate cost-effectiveness for a substantial proportion of their work.

Graph 1- Breakdown by enquiry origin and product type. The most common underlying cause of temperature excursions