

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – DENTAL ABSCESS TREATMENT**

I write in response to your request for information in relation to dental abscess treatment in NHS Lothian.

Question:

In the past five years, how many patients in your health board have been admitted for the treatment of dental abscesses? Could this be broken down by year.

Answer:

The information you have requested is detailed in the table below:

Patients admitted for treatment of dental abscess, NHS Lothian	
Year	Number of patients admitted
2019	196
2020	229
2021	146
2022	176
2023	189

I hope the information provided helps with your request.

If you are unhappy with our response to your request, you do have the right to request us to review it. Your request should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If our decision is unchanged following a review and you remain dissatisfied with this, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner within 6 months of receipt of our review response. You can do this by using the Scottish Information Commissioner’s Office online appeals service at [www.itspublicknowledge.info/appeal](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/appeal). If you remain dissatisfied with the Commissioner’s response you then have the option to appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law.



If you require a review of our decision to be carried out, please write to the reviewer at the address at the top of this letter. The review will be undertaken by a Reviewer who was not involved in the original decision-making process.

FOI responses (subject to redaction of personal information) may appear on NHS Lothian's Freedom of Information website at: <https://org.nhsllothian.scot/FOI>

Yours sincerely

**ALISON MACDONALD**  
**Executive Director of Nursing Midwifery and AHPs**  
Cc: Chief Executive