

Dear

### FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – RENAL SERVICES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to renal services within NHS Lothian

#### Question:

1. How many patients are on dialysis at the hospital and seen how many times per week?
2. What is your current capacity level and what is your maximum capacity level of renal dialysis?
3. What is your current number of dialysis machines and what brand are they? Also, who is the RO plant manufacturer?
4. What is the average cost per patient for renal dialysis within a hospital environment?
5. How old is your RO system and dialysis machines, and are they due for replacement, decant or upgrade any time soon?
6. What is your contingency plan for when you run out of internal dialysis capacity or your machines/RO go down?
7. Where does the primary source of funding for the renal department stem from? Is it directly from the health board or elsewhere?
8. Have you ever considered using a mobile renal dialysis unit to support your services through disaster recovery, decant, replacement or refurbishment?

#### Answer:

1.	Within the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh (RIE) 143 patients of whom 9 attend twice weekly and the remainder three times
2.	Current capacity 162. Maximum capacity 228.
3.	There are 104 dialysis machines across the Lothian service. The machines are Fresenius brand.
4.	This is published in the Cost Book (R048/R048X) for day patients. Intermittent haemodialysis is £228 per attendance (nearly 40k attendances) for Lothian
5.	Dialysis Machines are normally replaced after 10 years. The machines on each site require replacement in a staggered approach.
6.	Contingency = Mend the RO, use capacity in satellite dialysis units and in-patient treatment areas if needed.
7.	Funding is from Scottish government via NHS Lothian.
8.	No

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 FOI Reviewer at the email address at the head 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.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

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