

Date: 01/05/2024
Your Ref:
Our Ref: 8511

Enquiries to : Richard Mutch
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Direct Line: 0131 465 5687
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richard.mutch@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – OUTPATIENT GYNAECOLOGICAL PROCEDURES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to outpatient gynaecological procedures.

Question:

- How many outpatient gynaecological procedures failed and had to be stopped? Do you have data on specific procedures? for the last 3 years including this year to present date. In each hospital in the health board.

Answer:

I am advised that this information is not held in a centrally extractable format, and we would have to examine each individual medical record.

Under the Freedom of Information Act NHS Lothian is not required to create new records to enable it to respond to your enquiry. This information is not collated or held in aggregate form and it would be necessary to review all case files relating to patients over the period you have requested to assemble the information you seek. Even if NHS Lothian did this – and there would be significant cost implications in doing so – it would be unable to respond in full to your request. The information requested is therefore exempt under section 12.1 – Cost.

Question:

- How many patients after coming in for the outpatient procedure had to come back at a later date for General Anaesthesia. For the last 3 years including this year to present date. In each hospital in the health board.

Answer:

I am advised that this information is not held in a centrally extractable format, this would require a manual check of every Gynaecology appointment and any follow up appointments to understand if a relationship exists.

Under the Freedom of Information Act NHS Lothian is not required to create new records to enable it to respond to your enquiry. This information is not collated or held in aggregate form and it would be necessary to review all case files relating to patients over the period you have

requested to assemble the information you seek. Even if NHS Lothian did this – and there would be significant cost implications in doing so – it would be unable to respond in full to your request. The information requested is therefore exempt under section 12.1 – Cost.

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. 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.nhsllothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

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