

Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – SEPTIC ARTHRITIS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to septic arthritis.

Question:

- Could you please reconsider your response to Question 1 (a-d), taking into account the available patient data i.e. those whose diagnosis has been confirmed and/or have been admitted to your Trust for the condition.

As a reminder, the Question 1 is as follows:

In 2022/2023 (or for the last recorded year with data available), in your Trust/Health Board, how many of the following did you record?

Please provide your response based on the specified ICD10 codes:

- Paediatric patients with septic arthritis in native joints - M00.9
- Paediatric patients with prosthetic joint infection (PJI) - T84.5 + Y83.1
- Adult patients with septic arthritis in native joints - M00.9
- Adult patients with prosthetic joint infection (PJI) - T84.5 + Y83.1

Answer:

year	diagnosis_code	paediatrics_under16	adults_16plus
2023	M009	21	339
2023	T845Y831	0	355

Question:

- If you could also please confirm the answer to question 3 in regards to the data you have available. As a reminder, question 3 is as follows:

When investigating septic arthritis in native joints in both paediatric and adult patients, is a synovial fluid sample collected before or after antibiotics are administered and commenced?

Answer:

The answer to question 3 remains the same as previously provided

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