

Date: 23/04/2024
Your Ref:
Our Ref: 8578

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 – TITANIUM CLIPS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to titanium clips used within NHS Lothian.

Question:

- Between December 2019 and December 2023, how many operations were undertaken in NHS Lothian that involved the insertion of titanium clips to repair ruptured brain aneurysms?

Answer:

I am advised 31 cases for L33.2 - Clipping of aneurysm of cerebral artery. However, we are unable to confirm if titanium clips were used for these procedures without examining the individual cases.

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

Yours sincerely

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