

Date: 24/05/2024  
Your Ref:  
Our Ref: 8696

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Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – TRANSITION

I write in response to your request for information in relation to transitioning.

### Question:

1. Total number of patients who started treatment to transition from male to female, who were children at the start of treatment. Of those:
  - a. Proportion who ceased treatment
  - b. Of those who started treatment over 3 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 3 years of starting treatment
  - c. Of those who started treatment over 5 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 5 years of starting treatment
  - d. Of those who started treatment over 8 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 8 years of starting treatment
  - e. Of those who started treatment over 10 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 10 years of starting treatment
2. Total number of patients who started treatment to transition from female to male, who were children at the start of treatment. Of those:
  - a. Proportion who ceased treatment
  - b. Of those who started treatment over 3 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 3 years of starting treatment
  - c. Of those who started treatment over 5 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 5 years of starting treatment
  - d. Of those who started treatment over 8 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 8 years of starting treatment
  - e. Of those who started treatment over 10 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 10 years of starting treatment
3. Total number of patients who started treatment to transition from male to female, who were adults at the start of treatment. Of those:
  - a. Proportion who ceased treatment
  - b. Of those who started treatment over 3 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 3 years of starting treatment
  - c. Of those who started treatment over 5 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 5 years of starting treatment

- d. Of those who started treatment over 8 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 8 years of starting treatment
- e. Of those who started treatment over 10 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 10 years of starting treatment
- 4. Total number of patients who started treatment to transition from female to male, who were adults at the start of treatment. Of those:
  - a. Proportion who ceased treatment
  - b. Of those who started treatment over 3 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 3 years of starting treatment
  - c. Of those who started treatment over 5 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 5 years of starting treatment
  - d. Of those who started treatment over 8 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 8 years of starting treatment
  - e. Of those who started treatment over 10 years ago, proportion who ceased treatment within 10 years of starting treatment
- 5. Proportion and number of patients who, after starting treatment, ended their own life. Break this down by birth sex and year of ceasing treatment.
- 6. Proportion and number of patients who, after ceasing treatment, ended their own life. Break this down by birth sex and year of ceasing treatment.

Answer:

1.	This data is not routinely recorded outside of individual clinical records.
2.	This data is not routinely recorded outside of individual clinical records.
3.	This data is not routinely recorded outside of individual clinical records.
4.	This data is not routinely recorded outside of individual clinical records.
5.	This data is not routinely recorded outside of individual clinical records.
6.	This data is not routinely recorded outside of individual clinical records.
<p>This data is not routinely aggregated by the service; therefore, we would have to review individual clinical records to obtain these data which would exceed the time required for an FOI request.</p> <p>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.</p>	

I am sorry I cannot help 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.nhsllothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

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