

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – ONCOLOGY WORKFORCE

I write in response to your request for information in relation to oncology workforce in NHS Lothian.

Question:

1. For each year - 2007, 2015, 2019, and 2023 - please provide the WTE number of positions employed by the health board of: a) Medical oncologists; b) Clinical oncologists; c) Speciality and specialist doctors working in oncology
2. The number of current vacancies for: a) Medical oncologists; b) Clinical oncologists; c) Speciality and specialist doctors working in oncology
3. The number of these vacancies which have been open for twelve months or more.

Answer:

This information is published online as part of NHS Education Scotland Turas Data Intelligence reporting here: <https://turasdata.nes.nhs.scot/data-and-reports/official-workforce-statistics/all-official-statistics-publications/05-march-2024-workforce/dashboards/nhs-scotland-workforce/?pageid=11224>

At this link you can find numbers of specialists employed by clicking on 'Employment over time' on the left hand menu you can then filter the data by date, NHS Board and speciality. Medical oncology and clinical oncology are both listed as specialties. Under the graph there is the option to open the data table. This data goes back to 2014. We do not hold data in this format for 2007.

To find vacancies, you can click on 'Vacancy' in the left hand menu and then filter as above and for the time period the vacancy has been open for.

There are no current vacancies in NHS Lothian for speciality and specialist doctors working in oncology.

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 reviewer at the address at the top 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>

Yours sincerely

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