

Date 09/04/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 9824

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Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – OPHTHALMOLOGY

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

Question:

Ophthalmology Department & IT Record System

1. Does your Trust have an ophthalmology department and/or provide ophthalmology clinics? -
2. If so, what is the name of the principal IT record system used to document results from patient consultations within ophthalmology?

Answer:

1.	Yes
2.	Trak

Question:

Imaging Capabilities & System Integration

3. Does the principal IT system allow clinicians to view images from scans conducted during a clinic visit? -
4. Are there any types of medical images that **cannot** be imported into this principal IT system? If so:
 - What is the name of the IT programme used by clinicians to view these images?
 - What is the name of the scan/modality that generates these images?

Answer:

3.	Heyex is used to view OCT images.
4.	Paper records Visual Fields

Question:

Data Integration with National Systems

5. Does the principal IT system integrate with the NHS Spine or other national patient record systems (e.g., OpenEyes, Medisoft, Epic)?

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Chair Professor John Connaghan CBE
Chief Executive Professor Caroline Hiscox
*Lothian NHS Board is the common
name of Lothian Health Board*

6. Does the system support the exchange of structured data with other NHS Trusts or external healthcare providers?

Answer:

5.	No
6.	Yes

Question:

Patient Access & Communication

7. Does the system allow patients to access their ophthalmology records, including images, via the NHS App or another patient portal?

8. Are there any restrictions on how imaging data can be shared with patients and external providers?

Answer:

7.	Yes
8.	Yes

Question:

Image Storage & Viewing Capabilities

9. What is the storage capacity and retention policy for ophthalmology-related imaging within the IT system?

10. If images are not viewable within the principal IT system, does the Trust use a separate **PACS (Picture Archiving and Communication System)** for ophthalmology imaging?

Answer:

9.	Unknown
10	Unknown

Question:

Future IT Developments & Interoperability

11. Is the Trust planning any upgrades or changes to its ophthalmology IT infrastructure in the next five years?

12. Are there known interoperability challenges that affect the transfer of ophthalmology data within the Trust or between NHS organizations?

Answer:

11.	No
12.	Yes

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
Cc: Chief Executive