

Date: 06/06/2025
Our Ref: 10095
Enquiries to loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – FORENSIC NURSE GUIDELINES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Forensic Nurse guidelines for attending patients with chest pain in NHS Lothian.

Question:

1. We are seeking the guidelines in place for Forensic Nurses attending with patients in police custody complaining of chest pain, that would have been in place in September 2021.
2. We would also be grateful to receive any other guidelines in respect of chest pains and the procedure that should be followed by all nursing staff, that was in place at this time.

Answer:

I am advised that there is no written procedure specifically for forensic nurses examining detainees or patients presenting with chest pain in NHS Lothian. The patient would be assessed using the following standard examination:

Chest Brief Examination

ABCDE

AVPU

GCS

Well perfused?

CRT < 2s or >2s

Cyanosis?

Chest tightness?

Shortness of breath?

Clamminess?

Obvious wheeze?

Cough?

Pain? Arm Jaw Neck?

Dizzy?

Nausea?

Anxiety?

Distressed?

No clamminess/ nausea/ other systemic upset

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 <https://www.foi.scot/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