

Date 26/06/2025  
Your Ref  
Our Ref 10167

Enquiries to Richard Mutch  
Extension 35687  
Direct Line 0131 465 5687  
[loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot](mailto:loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot)  
[richard.mutch@nhs.scot](mailto:richard.mutch@nhs.scot)

Dear

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – MALNUTRITION

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

Question:

1. How many patients were admitted to hospitals in your NHS health board with malnutrition annually in the last 10 years of available data?
2. How many of those patients were children under 18 years of age?
3. How many patients in Scotland were admitted to hospital in your NHS health board with each of the following diseases annually in the last 10 years of available data?
  - Scurvy
  - Rickets
  - Cholera
  - Tuberculosis
  - Scarlet fever
  - Whooping cough
  - Typhoid
  - Scabies
4. For each of those diseases, how many of the patients admitted to hospital were children under 18 years of age?

Answer:

Diagnosis Code	Diagnosis	Inpatients (Adults)	Inpatients (Children)
A00	Cholera	5<	0
A01	Typhoid And Paratyphoid Fevers	51	21
A15-A19	Tuberculosis	360	17
A37	Whooping Cough	86	64

Headquarters  
Mainpoint  
102 West Port  
Edinburgh EH3 9DN

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

A38	Scarlet Fever	121	117
B86	Scabies	197	27
E46	Unspecified Protein-Energy Malnutrition	727	12
E54	Scurvy (Ascorbic Acid Deficiency)	19	5<
E550	Rickets (Vitamin D Deficiency)	13	12

To protect the identity of the individuals involved any figure of 5 or less has not been shown in the table above. Since we do not have their consent to release this data from their records, the information is exempt under section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act i.e. to provide it would breach the Data Protection Act (2018).

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](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**  
 Cc: Chief Executive