

Date 26/06/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 10184

Enquiries to Richard Mutch
Extension 35687
Direct Line 0131 465 5687
loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot
richard.mutch@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – CHAINSAW INJURIES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to chainsaw injuries.

Question:

- I request that any data held for presentations to your Trust Emergency Department(s) where the reason for presentation has been due to a chainsaw-related incident. Please could you share data for the last 10 years for all presentations that are associated with use of a chainsaw.

Answer:

Year	Number of attendances
2015	5<
2016	5<
2017	8
2018	5<
2019	8
2020	9
2021	5<
2022	19
2023	9
2024	11
2025 (to date)	9

- Patients were identified by searching for the words 'chain saw', 'chainsaw', 'chain-saw' in the presenting complaint field. Mis-spellings would be missed.
- Attendances where the chainsaw was not a direct cause of the complaint are excluded.
- Patients attending A&E appointments do not have a presenting complaint and therefore are not included in these results

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

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. 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