

Date: 10/07/2025
Our Ref: 10240
Enquiries to loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – INSULIN DRUGS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to insulin drugs in NHS Lothian.

Question:

In EACH of the last two financial years (up to March 31, 2025) and so far this financial year (April 1, 2024 onwards), how many patients have been discharged from hospital with a diagnosis of codes Y42.3 or Y42.8? Please break the figures down for each year and for each type of drug.

For clarity, the codes concerned are:

Y42.3 (insulin and oral hypoglycaemic [antidiabetic] drugs)

Y42.8 (Other and unspecified hormones and their synthetic substitutes)

Answer:

The information you have requested is detailed in the table below. The diagnosis is confirmed by the coding team after the discharge of the patient from hospital and this takes several weeks to confirm. Therefore the data for the first quarter of 2025-26 is not yet complete and therefore not included in the table.

I have not released numbers of 5 or fewer in the table, as this information could lead to the identification of the individuals involved. Since we do not have their consent to release their personal data, the information is exempt under section 38 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 as to provide it would breach the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018.

Insulin diagnosis, NHS Lothian		
Year	Y42.3	Y42.8
2023-24	18	≤5
2024-25	33	7

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.nhslothian.scot/FOI>

Yours sincerely

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