

Date 11/07/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 10261

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – AESTHETIC INJECTABLE PROCEDURES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to aesthetic injectable procedures.

Question:

1. The number of patients who presented to your Trust between 1 January 2020 and most recent available data up to January 2025 with complications related to **aesthetic injectable procedures**, such as dermal fillers or botulinum toxin (Botox).

Answer:

| Year | ED Attendances | IP Discharges |
|------|----------------|---------------|
| 2020 | 0 | 0 |
| 2021 | 0 | 0 |
| 2022 | 5< | 5< |
| 2023 | 0 | 0 |
| 2024 | 5< | 5< |

Question:

2. Where available, please provide a breakdown of:
 - The types of complications (e.g. infection, necrosis, vascular compromise)
 - The departments involved in managing the cases (e.g. A&E, Plastic Surgery, ENT)
 - Any cost or coding data available (e.g. HRG codes) for these episodes

Answer:

Due to the small numbers involved it is not possible to provide a breakdown of the figures above.

To protect the identity of the individuals involved any figure of 5 or less has not been shown in this response. 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).

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

Notes:-

1. Inpatients with ICD10 code T80.9 were identified (as recommended by our coding department) - and outwith specialties of Oncology and Haematology - and/or patients admitted as a result of any ED attendances as identified below
2. ED attendances with the words 'dermal filler', 'aesthetic' were considered and filtered for relevant results- this may not capture all relevant attendances
3. More comprehensive results would involve reading individual patient notes

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.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive