

Date 11/08/2025
Your Ref
Our Ref 10331

Enquiries to Richard Mutch
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Direct Line 0131 465 5687
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Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – VISITORS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to GPs and visitors.

Question:

1. Policy of NHS Lothian and the services available for visitors (who are registered with another Health Board in Scotland) but who are visiting the Lothian area to receive GP provided services such as blood tests for diabetes or coagulant testing.

Answer:

Arrangements for GP Registration are determined nationally and set out in the NHS General Medical Services Contract (Scotland) Regulations 2018. Where a patient is visiting another area in Scotland General Practices are under a duty to provide urgent or immediately necessary treatment where clinically determined at any place in its practice area. The practice is required to provide 14 days of further primary medical services following provision of immediate and necessary treatment. In addition, a patient may be registered as a temporary resident if they are planning to reside in the practice area for more than 24 hours but less than 3 months.

Question:

2. If this is not able to be provided by GPs, what services are provided at A&E for these tests.

Answer:

If there was emergency intervention required, then a person can attend Accident and Emergency Departments for adults or children.

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

Headquarters
Mainpoint
102 West Port
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Chair Professor John Connaghan CBE
Chief Executive Professor Caroline Hiscox
Lothian NHS Board is the common name of Lothian Health Board

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