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Date 19/01/2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 10962

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – DIALYSIS AWAY FROM BASE

I write in response to your request for information in relation to dialysis away from base.

Question:

1. Does your health board place a restriction upon the number of dialysis away from base (DAFB) sessions it will cover the cost of within a calendar year within the UK ?

If YES: If there are any restrictions in place, please list what these are.

Answer:

I am advised that we cap the sessions financially at £3,000 per patient per year - this only restricts out of areas sessions where we have to pay for the sessions as many sessions are covered by European Health Insurance Card.

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