

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – DVT**

I write in response to your request for information in relation to deep vein thrombosis (DVT).

Question:

**1. Scan volume**

Total number of lower limb duplex or Doppler ultrasound scans performed for suspected deep vein thrombosis (DVT).

Answer:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
US Doppler	8	5<	5<	5<	9	5<	5<	5<	7	7	5<	5<	57
Us Doppler Veins Leg Lt	190	218	211	213	261	214	236	209	209	199	160	184	2504
Ud Doppler Veins Leg Rt	178	183	197	192	225	204	205	180	179	187	155	166	2249
Total	374	*	*	*	495	*	*	*	395	393	*	*	4810

To protect the identity of the individuals involved any figure of 5 or less has not been shown in the table above, \*also included combined figures. 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).

Question:

**2. Waiting times**

- a) Average time from order to completion, or request to scan completion, whichever your systems record.
- b) If recorded, the number or percentage of patients who received their scan within:
  - i. 4 hours
  - ii. between 4 and 24 hours
  - iii. between 24 and 48 hours
  - iv. more than 48 hours after request

(for example: X% within 4 hours, Y% between 4 and 24 hours, Z% more than 48 hours, etc).

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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



Answer:

	<4 Hours	4 – 24 Hours	24 – 48 Hours	>48 Hours	Total
Count of Order item	1373	2489	687	261	4810
Percentage	29%	52%	14%	5%	

Question:

### 3. Overnight admissions

Number admitted overnight specifically to await their scan, if recorded.

Answer:

I am advised that this level of detail I not held in a central extractable format.

Under the Freedom of Information Act NHS Lothian is not required to create new records to enable it to respond to your enquiry. This information is not collated or held in aggregate form and it would be necessary to review all case files relating to patients over the period you have requested to assemble the information you seek. Even if NHS Lothian did this – and there would be significant cost implications in doing so – it would be unable to respond in full to your request. The information requested is therefore exempt under section 12.1 – Cost.

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](http://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