

Date 02/03/2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11092

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – INGUINAL HERNIA REPAIR

I write in response to your request for information in relation to inguinal hernia repair.

Question:

- For each financial year from 2019/20 to 2025/26 (most recent):
 1. the total number of referrals for an inguinal hernia repair.
 2. the **median completed wait** for an inguinal hernia repair.
 3. the **median ongoing wait** for an inguinal hernia repair.
 4. the **longest completed waited** for an inguinal hernia repair.
 5. the **longest ongoing wait** for an inguinal hernia repair.

Answer:

Please see enclosed spreadsheet.

We cannot provide detail in relation to longest waits as this is identifiable. This is considered exempt under Section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 – personal information.

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.

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*



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
Enc.

Inguinal Hernia Repair waiting times - FOI11092

Questions: For each financial year from 2019/20 to 2025/26 (most recent):

1. the total number of referrals for an inguinal hernia repair.
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Source: TRAK ORACLE **Please note that this analysis comes from a LIVE System - if this analysis were to be re-run at a later date the figures may be subject to change.*

Date Extracted: 10th Feb 2026

Answers: Completed Waits

FINANCIAL_YEAR_END	COMPLETED WAITS	MEDIAN WAIT (DAYS)
31/03/2020	586	152.5
31/03/2021	226	180
31/03/2022	321	206
31/03/2023	314	427
31/03/2024	516	424
31/03/2025	567	615
31/03/2026 *	525	547

Additions to the waiting list

FINANCIAL_YEAR_END	Additions
31/03/2020	427
31/03/2021	304
31/03/2022	522
31/03/2023	546
31/03/2024	794
31/03/2025	984
31/03/2026 *	877

Current Waits

PATIENTS WAITING	MEDIAN WAIT (DAYS)
827	183

Notes Includes waits on the waiting list between '01, Apr, 2019' and '31, Jan, 2026' *
 This answer only includes the wait for an inguinal Hernia procedure, before being added to this waiting list the patient will have to have seen a consultant in an outpatient appointment. The wait for this appointment is not included in this answer.
 Current Waits are those still on the waiting list on date of data extraction
 We can't provide the longest wait due to patient confidentiality.