

Date 09/03/2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11154

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

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – ASTHMA

I write in response to your request for information in relation to asthma admissions

Question:

- To refine this to information that may be available from centrally-held inpatient episode or discharge coding, without reviewing individual records, could you please provide the following for calendar years 2015 to 2025 inclusive, if held.
 1. Asthma admissions totals
Annual totals for inpatient episodes or discharges where asthma is recorded as a primary or secondary diagnosis (for example ICD-10 J45 and any sub-codes used).
 2. Any coded “work-related condition” indicator
Please confirm whether your inpatient coded dataset includes ICD-10 external cause code Y96 “work-related condition”, or any local equivalent. If yes, please list the relevant code(s).
 3. Use of any work-related indicator
If any such indicator exists, please provide annual totals for:
 - a) episodes where the work-related code is recorded (all diagnoses)
 - b) episodes where asthma appears in conjunction with the work-related code.

Answer:

Please see enclosed spreadsheet.

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

I hope the information provided helps with your request.

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

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive

FOI: FOI11154

Date Extracted: 23/02/2026

Source: NHS Lothian TRAK

**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.*

Notes:

1. Patients are counted in the year of inpatient discharge.
2. Asthma codes were identified using ICD10 codes 'J45', 'J46X' and 'J44.9' in any position.
3. Work-related indicator has been identified with ICD10 codes 'Z56.7' and 'Z57' in any position.
4. Diagnoses are coded at patient discharge. Due to a lag in discharge coding, full coding information for 2025 may be incomplete.

Response:

Table 1. Discharges by year - Asthma (J45/J46.X/J44.9)

Discharge Year	Inpatient admissions
2015	7839
2016	7268
2017	6866
2018	6413
2019	6994
2020	7110
2021	7604
2022	7264
2023	7476
2024	6340
2025	5941

Table 2. Discharges by year - Work-related condition (Y96)

Discharge Year	Inpatient admissions
2015	0
2016	0
2017	0
2018	0
2019	0
2020	0
2021	0
2022	0
2023	5<
2024	5<
2025	0

Table 3. a) Discharges by year - Work-related indicator (Z56.7/Z57)

Discharge Year	Inpatient admissions
2015	30
2016	28
2017	13
2018	28
2019	44
2020	21
2021	22
2022	13
2023	16
2024	8
2025	11

3. b) Discharges by year - Asthma appears in conjunction with the work-related indicator codes.

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