

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – NON-SURGICAL COSMETIC PROCEDURES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to non-surgical cosmetic procedures.

Question:

Please provide me with the following information for each calendar year:

- Any data, records, or reports relating to complications, adverse events, or hospital admissions associated with the following non-surgical cosmetic procedures:
 1. Dermal filler treatments
 2. Botulinum toxin (Botox) treatments
 3. Skin booster treatments

Where possible, please break down this data into the following categories for each calendar year:

- The number of recorded complications, adverse events, or hospital presentations arising from each treatment type, by year.
- A breakdown by type of complication (e.g. infection, vascular occlusion, blindness, allergic reaction, necrosis, etc.).
- Whether any of these cases were identified as having originated from Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) registered clinics or non-registered providers.

Answer:

I am advised that we are unable to provide an answer for this request as there is no diagnosis or treatment coding that allows us to specify complications following non-surgical cosmetic procedures, and therefore providing the information would require a search of individual patient records.

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

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name of Lothian Health Board*



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 am sorry I cannot help further 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