

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – LUPUS NEPHRITIS TREATMENT

I write in response to your request for information in relation to lupus nephritis treatment in NHS Lothian.

Question:

1. Does your Trust treat patients for Lupus Nephritis? (ICD-10 Code: M32.14 SNOMED Code: 68815009) If the Trust doesn't treat patients for Lupus Nephritis, to which Trust does the Trust refer patients on for treatment?

Answer:

Yes, NHS Lothian provides this treatment.

Question:

2. How many patients have a current diagnosis of Lupus Nephritis? Please can you look at the last three full calendar years of data (2023, 2024, 2025) and provide a total number of patients who had a diagnosis in each year (ICD-10 Code: M32.14 SNOMED Code: 68815009).

Answer:

The table below details the number of individual patients admitted as to hospital as an inpatient in each year who had a diagnosis of ICD-10 code M32.1. Systemic Lupus Erythematosus with organ or system involvement. We do not use the 5 digit code M32.14. This does not include any patients treated as outpatients, as our system does not record a diagnosis for outpatient treatments.

Inpatients with diagnosis recorded as Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, NHS Lothian	
Year	Number of patients
2023	15
2024	10
2025	11

Question:

3. How many patients have received treatment in the latest four-month period (November 2025 to February 2026 if available) for Lupus Nephritis with the following treatments regimens? (ICD-10 Code: M32.14 SNOMED Code: 68815009)

Standard Therapy (Steroids + Mycophenolate Mofetil (MMF))
Cyclophosphamide (EuroLupus regimen)
Belimumab (Benlysta)
Voclosporin (Lupkynis)
Obinutuzumab (Gazyvaro)
Ritixumab (MabThera or biosimilars)
Rituximab (any other brand)
Any other targeted therapy (please state if possible)

Answer:

I am advised that NHS Lothian does not hold this information. This is because our pharmacy system does not link medicines supply with patient diagnosis.

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 <https://www.foi.scot/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 reviewer at the address at the top 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>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director of Nursing Midwifery and AHPs
Cc: Chief Executive