

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – RINGS

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Emergency Departments and rings

Question:

- For the last five calendar years (or the most recent five year period for which data is available):
 1. The number of attendances at any of your emergency and urgent care services (including A&E, Emergency Department, Minor Injuries Unit and Urgent Treatment Centre) where the primary reason for attendance was a ring stuck on a finger.
 2. For the attendances identified in Question 1, please provide a breakdown by:
 - Sex (male / female / other / unknown).
 - Age group (for example: 0–9, 10–19, 20–29, 30–39, 40–49, 50–59, 60–69, 70+), or whatever age banding you use in your reporting.

Answer:

Table 1: Attendances by year

Year	Attendances
2021	47
2022	52
2023	66
2024	57
2025	60

Table 2: Attendances by year and sex

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Female	32	39	45	41	45
Male	15	13	21	16	15

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102 West Port
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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

Table 3: Attendances by year and age on arrival

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
0–9	5<	5<	5<	5<	5<
10–19	13	8	15	13	18
20–29	6	11	12	10	8
30–39	5<	7	11	5<	7
40–49	5<	7	9	6	5<
50–59	6	5<	7	5<	8
60–69	5<	6	5<	6	5<
70+	10	5<	7	12	7

Notes:

1. Patients have been counted where diagnosis code at A&E was BBS658 - Ring too tight on digit / extremity
2. Patients counted in the year of their arrival date
3. Western General Hospital A&E does not code diagnoses

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

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