

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – ACHILLES TENDON

I write in response to your request for information in relation to Achillies Tendon treatment in NHS Lothian.

Question:

1. Number of patients treated for Achilles tendon rupture over the past 10 years.

Answer:

The information you have requested is detailed in the table below:

Achilles tendon rupture treatment, NHS Lothian, 2016-2025		
	Male	Female
Number of treatments	111	60
Number of patients	109	54

Question:

2. Tendon length measurements at approximately 6 weeks post-injury (mean ± SD, or ranges)

Answer:

In NHS Lothian, Achilles tendon ruptures are treated non-operatively and no measurements are taken. Therefore unfortunately we do not hold this data.

Question:

3. Time to return to sport or activity (mean ± SD, or ranges).

Answer:

This information is not recorded centrally. Information may be held in individual patient records, but in order to provide the information you request it would be necessary to review each patient record over the period you have specified, requiring significant resources. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, NHS Lothian is not required to respond to your request if the resources required to do so equate to more than £600 in cost.

Question:

4. Relevant patient variables to adjust for potential confounders, including: Age; Sex; Type of surgical repair (open, percutaneous, augmented); Rehabilitation protocol (standard vs accelerated); Co-morbidities.

Answer:

We have provided data on gender in answer to Q1 above. We have not split by age group as the numbers in each group are small and may lead to the identification of the individual patients involved. Since we do not have their consent to release their personal data, the information is exempt under section 38 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 as to provide it would breach the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018.

Other variables are not recorded centrally. Information may be held in individual patient records, but in order to provide the information you request it would be necessary to review each patient record over the period you have specified, requiring significant resources. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, NHS Lothian is not required to respond to your request if the resources required to do so equate to more than £600 in cost.

You may be able get more help with your research data through NHS Lothian's Dataloch Team, please see their website here: <https://dataloch.org/>.

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