

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – MINOR INJURIES**

I write in response to your request for information in relation to minor injuries.

Question:

- The number of patients admitted to each of the health board's minor injuries and illness units, by unit, over the last four calendar years (2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026 to date).

Answer:

<b>Number of patients attending MIU in NHS Lothian in the last 3 financial years</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>
<b>Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh</b>			
All MIU	27271	27006	27097
MIU excluding scheduled	22105	21394	20761
<b>St John's Hospital at Howden</b>			
All MIU	50700	49116	50539
MIU excluding scheduled	40836	39102	41817
<b>Western General Hospital</b>			
All MIU	17591	19443	20386
MIU excluding scheduled	12842	15202	15556

Question:

- May I have the total number of winter falls patients admitted to each MIU in 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026 to date.



Answer:

<b>Winter falls in the last 3 financial years</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>
<b>Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh</b>			
Total attendances	5056	4556	4414
Falls	704	574	465
<b>St John's Hospital at Howden</b>			
Total attendances	9458	8876	9758
Falls	1043	913	968
<b>Western General Hospital</b>			
Total attendances	2954	3405	3203
Falls	650	662	670

1. Excludes the Royal Hospital for Children and Young People as it is not possible to identify minor injury patients
2. Winter falls are defined as patients with an incident code of 'Fall/Collision - over 2 metres (not sport)' and 'Fall/Collision - under 2 metres (not sport)' who attended minor injuries between 1st December and 1st March. Data are provided by financial year to enable winter periods that cross calendar year to be combined.
3. Many minor injuries patients attend a scheduled appointment, however no incident is recorded for these patients so it is not possible to identify whether or not they had a fall. Total minor injury attendances are therefore provided including and excluding scheduled attendances.

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](http://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