

Date 3 September 2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 11816

Enquiries to Richard Mutch
Extension 35687
Direct Line 0131 465 5687
loth.freedomofinformation@nhs.scot
richard.mutch@nhs.scot

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – JOINT PROCEDURES

I write in response to your request for information in relation to joint procedures.

Question:

- Under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, I would like to request aggregate information about surgical procedures involving the temporomandibular joint undertaken by, or on behalf of this NHS board.

For each financial year from 1996/97 to 2025/26 inclusive, please provide the number of procedures recorded in each of the following categories:

1. Primary total or partial prosthetic replacement of the temporomandibular joint.
2. Revision, replacement or removal of a temporomandibular-joint prosthesis or component.
3. Temporomandibular-joint arthroscopy, including arthroscopic lavage, lysis or adhesiolysis.
4. Temporomandibular-joint arthrocentesis or lavage.
5. Other open operations on the temporomandibular joint, including arthroplasty, reconstruction, meniscectomy or discectomy.

Please provide the figures broken down by financial year and procedure category.

Where this information is readily available from the same data system, please also distinguish between:

- The number of operative episodes or procedures.
- The number of individual patients.

Answer:

Please see enclosed spreadsheet.

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.nhslothian.scot/FOI/Pages/default.aspx>

Yours sincerely

ALISON MACDONALD
Executive Director, Nursing
Cc: Chief Executive
Enc.

[illegible]