Lothian NHS Board

NHS Lothian Headquarters

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Date 10 November 2026
Your Ref
Our Ref 12031

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

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION – REH DEATHS**

I write in response to your request for information in relation to deathe within the Royal Edinburgh Hospital.

Question:

- I wonder if you could be so kind as to let me know how many patients at the Royal Edinburgh hospital for mental health have died in each year from 2019 till now. Ie the yearly figure of patients that have been on SSRI'S as an outpatient dying after being treated by the royal Edinburgh hospital for mental health ...

- Can u please have the annual figure (as far back as you can go please )...of deaths from outpatients seeking help from the royal Edinburgh hospital for mental health when they were suffering psychosis or SERITONAN SYNDROME?

Answer:

We have included all inpatient deaths, including expected deaths of patients receiving palliative care and deaths of patients who were transferred from a ward at Royl Edinburgh Hospital to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh for medical care and died there.

These figures cover all 7 mental health acute wards, 5 mental health rehabilitation wards, and the 2 acute older people wards on the site. I have excluded Learning disability wards, medium secure wards and dementia wards. Please note that due to the small numbers involved it is not possible to provide a further breakdown (psychosis or seritonan syndrome).

| Year | Inpatient Deaths |
|---|---|
| 2019 | 5< |
| 2020 | 5< |
| 2021 | 5< |

| | |
|---|---|
| 2022 | 5< |
| 2023 | 5< |
| 2024 | 6 |
| 2025 | 5< |
| 2026 | 5< |
| Total | 26 |

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