

Freedom of Information request 209-17

Request

I am hoping to gain some information in regards to Facial Palsy Treatments throughout the UK. It has become apparent that though some patients are having surgical treatment on the NHS others are having to apply for funding on an individual basis.

With this in mind I hope to ask all groups responsible for funding in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland via the freedom of information act whether certain procedures are freely available or whether they are funded on an individual basis and if they are not funded, for what reason?

With this in mind please could you answer the following for your area:

Which of these procedures do you offer freely and which on an individual basis for those patients with facial palsy?

- 1) Botox injections for synkinesis or facial asymmetry
- 2) Static Therapies (4 procedures)
 - i. Browlift
 - ii. canthopexy/ canthoplasty
 - iii. static facial slings
 - iv. face lifts
- 3) Dynamic Therapies: (2 procedures)
 - i. sliding temporalis myoplasty
 - ii. cross facial nerve graft and free muscle transfer (facial reanimation)
- 4) If you only offer these on an individual evaluated basis why is this?

The information you provide may be used to write a health journal article and also used for general reporting purposes by the charity Facial Palsy UK.

Response

NHS Borders does not offer any of these procedures.

If you are not satisfied with the way your request has been handled or the decision given, you may ask NHS Borders to review its actions and the decision. If you would like to request a review please apply in writing to, Freedom of Information Review, NHS Borders, Room 2EC3, Education Centre, Borders General Hospital, Melrose, TD6 9BS or foi.enquiries@borders.scot.nhs.uk.

The request for a review should include your name and address for correspondence, the request for information to which the request relates and the issue which you wish to be reviewed. Please state the reference number **209-17** on this request. Your request should be made within 40 working days from receipt of this letter.

If following this review, you remain dissatisfied with the outcome, you may appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner and request an investigation of your complaint. Your request to the Scottish Information Commissioner should be in writing (or other permanent form), stating your name and an address for

correspondence. You should provide the details of the request and your reasons for dissatisfaction with both the original response by NHS Borders and your reasons for dissatisfaction with the outcome of the internal review. Your application for an investigation by the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within six months of your receipt of the response with which you are dissatisfied. The address for the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner is, Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.