

Freedom of Information request 373-18

Request

Under Freedom of Information legislation could you please provide me with the following information regarding radiology studies in your health board area?

1. On 30 June 2018 (end of day – 23:59) how many studies* in your picture archiving and communications system (PACS) were unreported for:
 - Between 11 and 20 days i.e generated between 10th June 2018 and 19th June 2018 (and unreported on 30th June 2018)
 - Between 21 and 30 days i.e generated between 31st May 2018 and 9th June 2018 (and unreported on 30th June 2018)
 - 31 days or more i.e generated before 30th May 2018 (and unreported on 30th June 2018)
 - In addition, for each time frame could you also provide a breakdown by type of scan (i.e Plain Film (X-ray), CT, MRI, SPECT, PET)

2. On 31st March 2018 (end of day – 23:59) how many studies* in your picture archiving and communications system (PACS) were unreported for:
 - Between 11 and 20 days i.e generated between 11th March 2018 and 20th March 2018 (and unreported on 31st March 2018)
 - Between 21 and 30 days i.e generated between 1st March 2018 and 10th March 2018 (and unreported on 31st March 2018)
 - 31 days or more i.e generated before 28th February 2018 (and unreported on 31st March 2018)
 - For each time frame could you provide a breakdown into types of scan (i.e Plain Film (X-ray), CT, MRI, SPECT, PET)

3. On 31st December (end of day – 23:59) how many studies* in your picture archiving and communications system (PACS) were unreported for:
 - Between 11 and 20 days i.e generated between 11th December 2017 and 20th December 2017 (and unreported on 31st December 2017)
 - Between 21 and 30 days i.e generated between 1st December 2017 and 10th December 2017 (and unreported on 31st December 2017)
 - 31 days or more i.e generated before 30th November 2017 (and unreported on 31st December 2017)
 - For each time frame could you provide a breakdown into types of scan (i.e Plain Film (X-ray), CT, MRI, SPECT, PET)

4. On 30 September 2017 (end of day – 23:59) how many studies* in your picture archiving and communications system (PACS) were unreported for:
 - Between 11 and 20 days i.e generated between 10th September 2017 and 19th September 2017 (and unreported on 30th September 2017)
 - Between 21 and 30 days i.e generated between August 31st 2017 and 9th September 2017 (and unreported on 30th September 2017)
 - 31 days or more i.e generated before 30th August 2017 (and unreported on 30th September 2017)
 - For each time frame could you provide a breakdown into types of scan (i.e Plain Film (X-ray), CT, MRI, SPECT, PET)

* A single examination counts as one study. Therefore, a patient booked in for a CT scan of chest, abdomen and pelvis would count as one study (and not three).

** If you are unable to generate data retrospectively, please choose the next feasible reporting date and state the date used.

Response

NHS Borders are unable to provide data retrospectively from our electronic systems, therefore under Section 17 this data is not held.

Please find below the data we are able to extract from our reporting system as of current day:

9 August 2018 at 1400hrs:

CT - 321 studies dating back to 13 June 2018
MRI - 410 studies dating back to 13 June 2018
X-ray - 717 studies dating back to 20 July 2018

We are unable to provide a breakdown of these figures as this would require a manual check of all reports and this would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002 and therefore we are not required to provide.

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 **373-18** 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.