

Freedom of Information request 399-18

Request

Under freedom of information legislation, I am seeking the following information, all in relation to Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT):

1. How many people have received ECT through your trust in the last 2 years?
2. What is the age of the youngest person to have been given ECT through your trust in the last 2 years?
3. What is the age of the oldest person to have been given ECT through your trust in the last 2 years?
4. How much does it cost your trust to offer ECT to one person in standard blocks of therapy, such as 10 rounds of being given ECT? A current rate/cost today.
5. How much does it cost your trust to offer psychotherapy to one person in standard blocks of therapy, such as 10 sessions of psychotherapy? A current rate/cost today.
6. How many patients in the last 2 years receiving treatment of ECT through your trust have been given rehabilitation for their brain injuries induced by the ECT?
7. How many patients within the last two years have reported memory loss after undergoing ECT?
8. What cognitive function testing does the trust advocate and carry out on ECT patients and with what frequency?

Response

1. Within NHS Borders 12 patients have received ECT in the last 2 years.
- 2-3 Please note that as NHS Borders is such a small Board the number of patients is very small, and to provide further details of their ages could allow individuals to be identified and we would be in breach of the Data Protection Act 1998. We are therefore withholding all other data under Section 38(2)(ii) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This is also in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics any number that is less than five, actual numbers and potentially identifiable information is withheld to help maintain patient confidentiality due to potential risk of disclosure. Further information is available in the ISD Statistical Disclosure Control Protocol.

Under Section 15 of the FOI(S)A 2002 Duty to provide advice and assistance we have provided an age range of the youngest and oldest person to have received ECT in the last 2 years:

Youngest – 30 - 40 years
Oldest - >80 years

- 4-5 NHS Borders do not cost these services separately therefore we do not hold this data, therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 we do not hold this data.
6. None.
 7. There has been <5 patients who have reported memory loss after undergoing ECT.
 8. Auto biographical memory interview cognitive testing is continually tested throughout treatment, then 3 then 6 months post.

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 **399-18** 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.