

Freedom of Information request 447-18

Request

We are developing an online resource for cancer patients which aims to help people learn more about the hospitals in their area.

We have gathered lots of data regarding hospitals in the UK, and we are now expanding the site into other areas, including haematological cancers. I thought it would be useful to get in touch to see if you'd be able to help me pull together some information about the hospitals in NHS Borders.

Part of the website will show patients which diagnostic tests (and therefore biomarkers) are used/available at each hospital. I have attached a list of the available tests and biomarkers for haematological cancers, but it would be incredibly helpful if you could let me know which are available at which hospital throughout NHS Borders.

I hope you're able to help me with the above – we hope that the site will be a useful resource for patients. If you would like to see the beta version of the site you can find it here: <https://www.informed-patients.com/#/search>



Current Diagnostics
key Full.xls



Current Biomarkers
key Full.xls

Response

NHS Borders offer myeloma diagnostics: immunoelectrophoresis, immunoglobulins, light chains, bone marrow and immunofixation, as well as Bence Jones.

All flow cytometry will be done elsewhere, as would any of the tissue bio-markers, these services are provided by NHS Lothian on our behalf. Therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A this information is accessible elsewhere.

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 **447-18** 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.