

Freedom of Information request 87-19

Request

1. Can you please tell me the number of times prone restraint has been used on patients in your health board's psychiatric institutions between January 1 2016 and January 1 2019, broken down per year?
2. How many patients have been subject to prone restraint in the same time period, broken down per year?
3. Broken down by year, how many of these patients were restrained using the prone method:
 - Once
 - More than once but less than three times
 - Between three and five times
 - Between five and 10 times
 - Between 10 and 15 times
 - More than 15 times
4. How many times has rapid tranquilisation been used in the same period, and again if possible on how many patients?
5. Broken down by year, how many of these patients were subject to rapid tranquilisation :
 - Once
 - More than once but less than three times
 - Between three and five times
 - Between five and 10 times
 - Between 10 and 15 times
 - More than 15 times

Response

1-3 Prone Restraint:

Within NHS Borders we do not record types of physical restraint on our Datix system, therefore we would be unable to identify which patients have been prone restrained. Under Section 15 of the FOI(S)A 2002 Duty to provide advice and assistance we can confirm that during the period in question, 3 calendar years, a total of 111 restraints of all types and levels were recorded.

4-5 Rapid Tranquilisation:

This data is not recorded electronically but may be within a patient's medical record. To retrieve this data would require a manual trawl of all patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the £600 limit set in the Fees Regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002, therefore we are not required to provide. To quantify this we would have to review 800 sets of written medical records which is the number of patients admitted to our Mental Health Units in this period and would take a health professional at least 1 hour to review each set of handwritten notes, which equates to 800 x £15 per hour = £12,000.

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 **87-19** 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.