

Freedom of Information request 181-19

Request

Please advise:

- (a) Do you have a specific (documented or undocumented) procedure for the registration and distribution of Advance Directive's and DNACPR documents?
- (b) If so, how many persons have registered an advance directive with their GP or other healthcare professional (hospital setting etc.)
- (c) how many DNACPR orders are currently registered?
- (d) if you do not hold this information, why not, and will you now consider implementing a registration and distribution process?

Response

- (a) Within NHS Borders a copy of any Advanced Directive received by Medical Records is placed in the patient's paper notes (Universal Patient Record) and an alert is added to Trakcare (electronic patient management system).

DNACPR documents are patient held paper documents therefore not always recorded electronically.

DNACPR status is a prompt in free-text Electronic discharge letters.

- (b) NHS Borders are unable to access GP data as they are independent contractors, therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere. Within the hospital setting NHS Borders has 52 Advanced Directives on record.
- (c) The DNACPR clinical alert is not commonly used, therefore there are currently only 5 patients recorded as having a DNACPR.
- (d) NHS Borders is the second pilot site in Scotland to introduce the ReSPECT process. We are currently defining how information relating to Advanced Directives and DNACPR decisions should be recorded, monitored and distributed while still in the paper copy phase of ReSPECT.

We are working with Scottish Government to develop an electronic version which will be accessible by the patient, clinicians and appropriate stakeholders such as ambulance service.

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 **181-19** 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.