

Freedom of Information request 319-19

Request and Response

We represent a group of multi-professional clinicians and pessary users who have come together following a recognised need for UK guidelines relating to pessary for prolapse management. To date, the UK lacks an evidence based guideline detailing various aspects of pessary care.

As a group, our long-term aims are:

- To undertake a service evaluation to establish where and who delivers pessary care in the UK
- Publish the findings of the service evaluation
- Use data collected in the service evaluation to create a sampling frame of pessary practitioners
- Distribute a clinician survey to pessary practitioners within the sampling frame to determine aspects of pessary practices across the UK
- Publish the findings of the clinician survey
- Undertake a consensus exercise to establish agreement between experts regarding pessary care
- Formulate and publish guidelines for pessary care in the UK

We are writing to you and colleagues in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary care, with a freedom of information request to obtain the following data:

Name of organisation: NHS Borders

Question	Number	Comments
How many new pessaries are inserted in your Trust/ CCG/ Practice in the last year?	Unknown	Under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not recorded electronically but will be held in a patient's medical record. This would require a manual trawl of all notes and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations and we are therefore not required to provide.
How many pessaries are changed in your Trust/ CCG/ Practice in the last year?	Unknown	Under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not recorded electronically but will be held in a patient's medical record. This would require a manual trawl of all notes and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations and we are therefore not required to provide.
What are the training requirements for a pessary practitioner in your Trust/ CCG/Practice? <i>Please share any related competency or training documents</i>		The NHS Borders specialist nurse has completed the following training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance at a gynaecology assessment and examination 2 day course. • 20 supervised pessary removal and replacements.

Who provides pessary care in your Trust/ CCG/ Practice? (see table below and tick all that apply)

Designation:	Please tick all that apply
Consultant Urogynaecologist	
Consultant Gynaecologist	X
Urogynaecology Subspecialist Trainee	
Junior Doctor	X
Nurse Consultant	
Advanced Nurse Practitioner	
Specialist Nurse	X
Staff Nurse	
Assistant Practitioner	
Clinical Support Worker/Auxillary Nurse/Nursing assistant	
Physiotherapist	
Midwife	
Other (please specify)	

The information obtained from the request will help us to build a database of detailed information about pessary management in primary, secondary and tertiary care.

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 **319-19** 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.