

Freedom of Information request 345-19

Request and Response

I'd like to submit a Freedom of Information request to obtain details relating to the use of amalgam fillings in NHS dentistry in your health board area over the past 10 years.

Could you please answer the following questions for me?

- 1) How many amalgam fillings have been placed in the mouths of patients through NHS Borders over the past 10 years? (Please provide a breakdown of the figures for each of the past 10 years).

This information is not held by NHS Borders but is available from [ISD Scotland](#) therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

- 2) How much money has NHS Borders spent on placing these amalgam fillings in each of the past 10 years?

This information is not held by NHS Borders but is available from [ISD Scotland](#) therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

- 3) On how many occasions have dental amalgam fillings been removed after patients had an adverse reaction? (Please provide a breakdown of figures for each of the last 10 years).

This information is not held by NHS Borders but is available from [ISD Scotland](#) therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

- 4) How much money did it cost to have these dental amalgam fillings removed in each of the past 10 years?

This information is not held by NHS Borders but is available from [ISD Scotland](#) therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

- 5) How many fillings made of a different material, such as white composite, have been placed in the mouths of patients and paid for by NHS Borders over the past 10 years? (Please provide a breakdown of the figures for each of the past 10 years).

This information is not held by NHS Borders but is available from [ISD Scotland](#) therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

- 6) How much did NHS Borders spend on these fillings using a different material in each of the past 10 years?

This information is not held by NHS Borders but is available from [ISD Scotland](#) therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

- 7) On how many occasions have fillings using a different material to amalgam been removed after patients had an adverse reaction? (Please provide a breakdown of figures for each of the last 10 years).

This information is not held by NHS Borders but is available from [ISD Scotland](#) therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

8) How much money did it cost to have these (non-amalgam) fillings removed in each of the past 10 years?

This information is not held by NHS Borders but is available from [ISD Scotland](#) therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data 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 **345-19** 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.