

## Freedom of Information request 367-19

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### Request

I would like to make a Freedom of Information request please;

- 1) Please state the name of your CCG or Health Board?
- 2) How many patients currently under the care of your CCG/ Health Board are being kept alive with clinically assisted nutrition and hydration (CANH) who are in a persistent vegetative state or minimally conscious state?
- 3)
  - a) How many patients from Q2 have been kept alive for 1 year or more?
  - b) How many patients from Q2 have been kept alive for 3 years or more?
  - c) How many patients from Q2 have been kept alive for 5 years or more?
- 4)
  - a) How much money did your CCG/Health Board spend on the patients from Q2 in the years;  
  
2015 - 2016  
2016 - 2017  
2017 – 2018
  - b) How much money does your CCG/Health Board spend per patient (from Q2) on average?
- 5) How many next of kin of patients from Q2 have asked for the CANH to be stopped and their loved ones be moved into palliative care?
- 6)
  - a) In how many patients cases, have you been in a legal battle, whether mediation or court, because next of kin wanted to stop CANH in the last 5 years?
  - b) What has been the financial cost of these legal battles/mediations?

### Response

1. NHS Borders
2. No patient currently under the care of NHS Borders is being kept alive with clinically assisted nutrition and hydration (CANH) who is in a persistent vegetative state or minimally conscious state.
3. Not applicable.
4. Not applicable.
5. Not applicable.
6. NHS Borders have never been involved in a legal battle because next of kin wanted to stop CANH in the last 5 years.

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](mailto: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 **367-19** 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.