

Freedom of Information request 417-19

Request

Under FOI legislation, I write to request information on hospital treatment following lip augmentation, or lip fillers. This non-surgical procedure involves the injection of fillers to increase the size of the lips. Some reports suggest people who have had lip fillers subsequently experienced complications.

I would like to know:

How many people presented to hospital complaining of complications as a result of lip augmentation or lip fillers in each of the last five years (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018).

In each of these years please also tell me how many were (a) 16 or older and (b) 15 or under. Please also state the youngest person treated who had experienced complications following lip augmentation or fillers.

Finally, please tell me in general terms the type of complications reported (such as pain, swelling) and the treatment offered.

Response

NHS Borders do not record this level of data on their electronic systems as there is no specific code for complications arising from lip augmentation or lip fillers. This information may be held in a patient's notes but this would require a manual trawl of all patient notes and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the fees regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002 and therefore we are not required to provide.

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 **417-19** 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.