

## Freedom of Information request 321-20

---

### Request

This application is under FOISA legislation, individually and otherwise, for the following information concerning NHS chronic pain clinic services in your health board area:

1. How many patients\* or patient visits\* to your chronic pain clinics in the year 2018 - 2019 involved

- A) Lidocaine/lignocaine infusions
- B) Pain relief injections of any kind

2. How many patients\*, or patient visits,\* to your chronic pain clinics in the year 2015 - 2016 involved

- A) Lidocaine/lignocaine infusions
- B) Pain relief injections of any kind

Please state 1.) if you ended any of these treatment types and, if so: 2) on which date or year.  
\*3) if you mean patient visits or number of patients in your replies.

### Response

1. A) <5 patient visits  
B) 70 patient visits

No treatments ended but rationale for use regularly reviewed.

2. Unfortunately in the year 2015/16 a different electronic system was in place and this data is no longer accessible to the service. Therefore under Section 17 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is not held.

As the number of events in some areas are very small and in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics any number that is less than five, actual numbers and potentially identifiable information is withheld to help maintain patient confidentiality due to potential risk of disclosure. Further information is available in the [ISD Statistical Disclosure Control Protocol](#).

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 **321-20** 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.