

Freedom of Information request 327-20

Request

I am looking for some information on the testing of patients for Covid-19 before discharge to care homes.

1. Can you tell me how many patients who were discharged to care homes between April 21 2020 and June 30 2020 were tested for Covid-19 before they were discharged to the care homes?
2. And can you also please tell me how many patients moved to care homes in that period tested negative and how many tested positive?
3. Finally, can you please tell me how many patients in that period were discharged to care homes?

Response

1. 106 patients were tested before discharged to a care home between April 21 2020 and June 30 2020.
2. Please find below the number of patients moved to care homes and their test results in the period in question:

Negative - 104 patients had 1 or more a negative tests prior to discharge to a care home

Positive - 2 patients that were admitted from a care home with known Covid were subsequently transferred back to the same care home. These transfers were based on clinical guidance and in the best interests of the patient.

3. 108 patients were discharged to a care home between April 21 2020 and June 30 2020

Formal guidance was issued by the Scottish Government to NHS boards on 26th April 2020, requiring all Covid-19 patients to have 2 negative tests before discharge and all other patients to have 1 negative test.

The 2 patients not tested before discharge to a care home were transferred prior to the formal guidance for care home testing being issued. Neither of these patients were transferred from a Covid ward and neither have subsequently tested positive for Covid.

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 **327-20** 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.