

Freedom of Information request 61-21

Request

We would like to know how many posts (and WTE) you have for each of the following, and if any of these posts are unfilled.

1. Consultant neurologists
2. Consultant paediatric neurologists
3. Adult epilepsy specialist nurses
4. Paediatric epilepsy specialist nurses
5. Consultant neurophysiologists
6. Neurophysiology technicians

Moreover, we would like to know:

7. How many patients with epilepsy, both paediatric and adult, do you have on record in the health board?
8. What is the current waiting time to see a neurologist (both adult and paediatric)?
9. What is the current waiting time to see an epilepsy specialist nurse (both adult and paediatric)?
10. What is the current waiting time for a routine EEG?
11. What is the current waiting time for an urgent EEG?
12. What is the current waiting time for videotelemetry within the health board?

Response

1. NHS Borders has 2 (2 WTE) Consultant Neurologists.
2. NHS Borders has no Paediatric Neurologists.
3. NHS Borders has no Adult Epilepsy Specialist Nurses.
4. NHS Borders has 1 (0.8 WTE) Paediatric Epilepsy Specialist Nurse.
5. There are no Consultant Neurophysiologists directly employed by NHS Borders.
6. There are no Neurophysiology Technicians directly employed by NHS Borders.
7. NHS Borders record how many patients are currently receiving treatment for epilepsy but do not record the number of patients who have been diagnosed with epilepsy, therefore this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Under Section 15, duty to provide advice and assistance, it is estimated that based upon the 1% prevalence, that there are 1100 patients.
8. The current waiting time for Neurology is 49 weeks.
9. NHS Borders do not record waiting times to see an epilepsy specialist nurse as the Board currently does not employ somebody in this role. Therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and cannot be provided.
10. This service is provided by NHS Lothian, therefore please note under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

11. This service is provided by NHS Lothian, therefore please note under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.
12. This service is provided by NHS Lothian, therefore please note 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 **61-21** 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.