

## Freedom of Information request 43-22

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### Request

I am analysing the usage of intra-vitreous injections or implants by the NHS. I would greatly appreciate if you could answer the following questions:

1. For the 4-month period from September to December 2021, how many patients has your trust treated (using intra-vitreous injections or implants) for each of the following eye conditions:

- Wet Age-Related Macular Degeneration (wAMD)
- Diabetic Macular Oedema (DMO)
- Retinal Vein Occlusion - Central (CRVO) or Branch (BRVO)
- Any other eye condition

2. How many of the following intra-vitreous injections/implants has your trust administered in the four-month period from September to December 2021:

- Aflibercept
- Bevacizumab
- Brolucizumab
- Dexamethasone
- Fluocinolone acetonide
- Ranibizumab

### Response

1. This information is not held electronically. The data may be held in a patient's record, but to extract this data would require a manual trawl of all patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.
2. Please see the table below for the number of intra-vitreous injections/implants which were supplied by the Pharmacy department at Borders General Hospital from September to December 2021:

Aflibercept	33
Bevacizumab	<5
Brolucizumab	0
Dexamethasone	92
Fluocinolone acetonide	0
Ranibizumab	21

Please note that as NHS Borders is such a small Board and the number of injections supplied is very small, to provide further details could allow individuals to be identified and we would be in breach of the Data Protection Act 2018. We are therefore withholding all other data under Section 38(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This is in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics that 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 **43-22** 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.