

Freedom of Information request 168-22

Request

I'd like to please request the following information with regards to the pulmonary rehab services your patients have access to.

- 1) Who commissions the Pulmonary Rehab services your patients have access to and who provides these services?
- 2) When did the services first commence?
- 3) How many patients have been referred to the service in the last 12 months and 24 months of data held?
- 4) Of these being referred how many have actually attended the service in these same time periods?
- 5) How long does the average patient stay within the services?
- 6) What is the current waiting list size for the service?
- 7) What is the current remaining contract durations for these services?
- 8) Has the CCG ever commissioned Digital Respiratory Services?
 - a. If so were these for Pulmonary Rehab?
 - b. If so who were the providers?
 - c. If so how many patients have utilised this digital element?

Response

1. As a Health Board within NHS Scotland, we do not operate a CCG structure.
Pulmonary Rehab funding is made available from NHS Borders, Respiratory Managed Clinical Network or from Primary Care Improvement Programme (and its predecessors).
Funding has been housed within the Physiotherapy budget, although a multi-disciplinary approach has been used, this includes Physiotherapy, Clinical Psychology, Dietetics, Occupational Therapy, Respiratory Medicine, Smoking cessation/Health & Wellbeing, Respiratory Specialist Nurses, Pharmacy, Leisure Providers, Social Work and Third Sector partners.
Permanent funding has recently been approved which will allow recruitment of 2.0 whole time equivalent (WTE) Physiotherapy staff and 0.5 WTE Occupational Therapy staff. This recruitment process is underway.
2. Temporary funding for this service was first provided in the financial year 2009/10.
3. The number of patients referred in the past:
 - 12 months: 68
 - 24 months: 107
4. The number of patients who have attended the service in the past:
 - 12 months: approx. 55;
 - 24 months: 83

5. The average time a patient stays within the services is 12 weeks.
6. The current waiting list size is 48 patients.
7. Not applicable.
8. Not applicable regarding CCG but Digital Respiratory Services have been used and extended during the pandemic to date. A Virtual Ward for Covid was established.
 - a. Within Pulmonary Rehab, there has been a considerable extension of use in telephone consultations plus NearMe video consultations and classes.
 - b. Providers are the existing Physiotherapists. Increased use has also been made of digital resources such as Chest, Heart and Stroke Scotland/My Lungs My Life, Cheyne Gang and British Lung Foundation websites.
 - c. A project with local University has involved 16 patients to date, using a smartphone-based app plus worn device.

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 **168-22** 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.