

Freedom of Information request 185-22

Request and Response

We are conducting a project which involves mapping heart failure services across the NHS and this request for information regarding the services provided by your organisation is an important part of this.

I would be grateful if you could please answer the following questions.

1. What is the name of your Heart Failure Service?

There is no specific name for this type of service within NHS Borders.

2. Population served by the Heart Failure Service?

NHS Borders has a population of approx. 115,000.

3. What is the service setting?

a) Acute hospital

4. Approximate case load of Heart Failure patients seen per week?

Approx 30-40 patients are seen by Cardiac Nurses per week. Unknown quantity by Cardiologists as seen in general Cardiology clinics and specific figures are not recorded.

5. Number of follow ups in 2021/22

At this present time there are approx 220 patients actively attending service. To extract exact data would require a manual trawl of all patient notes and this would be outwith the scope of FOI, therefore under Section 12 Cost of Compliance we cannot provide.

6. Which populations do you provide the following services for and are you commissioned for these services?

b) Heart Failure with reduced ejection fraction (HFpEF)

7. Staff dedicated to Heart Failure:

- a. Number of Heart Failure consultants (pa's) - **No dedicated consultant. 3 Consultants based at hospital 25 pas. Heart Failure patients reviewed in General Cardiology clinics or on ward as required.**
- b. Number of Heart Failure nurses (WTE) - **1.0**
- c. Number of Heart Failure Pharmacists (WTE) - **Nil dedicated**

8. Which of these (a to g) does your NHS organisation have?

- a. Access to open access ECHO - **Not for GP- Cardiology nursing team request**
- b. Access to Cardiac rehab? - **Not for heart failure patients**
- c. HF Multi Disciplinary Team (MDT) - **No dedicated MDT**
- d. Cardiologist Non HF specialist - **No dedicated specialist (generalist staff grade)**
- e. Cardiologist HF specialist - **No dedicated specialist (Generalist cardiologists)**

- f. Cardiology Pharmacist - **No dedicated cardiologist pharmacist, access to ward pharmacists for advice**
 - g. GPwER (previously called GPwSI) - **No**
9. Which of the following (h to n) service models do you provide?
- h. Acute inpatient - **Nursing team review if possible prior to discharge. Cardiologists will review if referred.**
 - i. HF outpatient - **Yes. Clinics within district general hospital and peripherally.**
 - j. Hospital based ambulatory heart failure unit - **No dedicated unit. Can use some facilities to bring in if required for IV therapy.**
 - k. Community based ambulatory heart failure unit - **Nil**
 - l. Home based service / care - **Home visits if necessary for frail patients**
 - m. Community based clinic - **Yes peripheral clinics**
 - n. Heart Failure virtual ward - **No**
10. Do you believe that the current service specification adequately reflects the range and volume of activity your service provides?

Yes.

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 **185-22** 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.