

Freedom of Information request 207-22

Request

I would be grateful if you could answer a few questions about your Tier 3 and Tier 4 specialist weight management (obesity-related) services,

1. Do you have a Tier 3 specialist weight management service for obesity, with multi-disciplinary input?
2. How many patients have been referred to this service in the past year?
3. What medications are prescribed as part of this service? Specifically, are Orlistat (Xenical) and Saxenda (Liraglutide) prescribed? Or Wegovy (semaglutide) used for obesity management?
4. Do you have a Tier 4 weight management service (i.e. weight-loss surgery)?
5. How many bariatric surgeries have been conducted in the past year?
6. Is there an obesity care pathway for referral and if yes, can this be shared?

Response

1. NHS Borders do have a Tier 3 Specialist Weight Management Team.
2. There have been 207 referrals to this service between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2022.
3. Our service does not have a clinician who can prescribe. We may recommend patients have Orlistat/Xenical as part of our treatment if we indicated. The GLPI therapies you have mentioned, specifically Saxenda was only passed by Scottish Medical Consortium for restrictive use in obesity management within NHS Scotland less than 24hrs of receiving this FOI so therefore no it has not been used. Semaglutide has not yet been passed by the SMC therefore no it has not been used either.
4. NHS Borders do not provide bariatric surgery, we refer appropriate patients to the regional service in NHS Lothian.
5. Not applicable.
6. NHS Borders publish this information on our webpage, therefore under Section 25 this data is accessible elsewhere. We accept referrals for anyone over a BMI >25kg/m² or >23kg/m² for those from a Black, South East Asian, Chinese and Japanese heritage. We have a central point of triage for all weight management referrals. Referral to our service does not mean they will automatically go into Tier 3 Specialist Weight Management, they may go into our Tier 2 Weight management service.
<http://www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/our-services/general-services/borders-adult-weight-management-team/>

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 **207-22** 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.