



Freedom of Information request 251-22

Request and

1. Could you please provide a full list of restrictive practices used with patients in your health board area?
2. Is prone restraint i) approved and ii) used in your health board area?
3. Could you please provide the number of instances where someone with a diagnosis of autism and/or a learning disability admitted to a hospital-based assessment and treatment unit or any other NHS in-patient setting, including psychiatric wards in your health board area, has been subject to each of the following restrictive practices from the 1st June 2021 to the 1st June 2022 inclusive, please?

For ease of collation, figures for each practice could be entered into the table below:

Physical restraint	Seclusion	As required medication	Environmental restriction	Chemical restraint	Rapid tranquilisation	Any other strategies (please specify)

4. Could you please provide the number of instances where someone with a diagnosis of autism and/or a learning disability admitted to a hospital-based assessment and treatment unit or any other NHS in-patient setting, including psychiatric wards in your health board area, has been subject to each of the following restrictive practices from the 31st May 2020 to the 31st May 2021, please?

For ease of collation, figures for each practice could be entered into the table below:

Physical restraint	Seclusion	As required medication	Environmental restriction	Chemical restraint	Rapid tranquilisation	Any other strategies (please specify)

5. Could you please provide the number of instances where someone with a diagnosis of autism and/or a learning disability admitted to a hospital-based assessment and treatment unit or any other NHS in-patient setting, including psychiatric wards in your health board area, has been subject to each of the following risk management strategies or restrictive practices from the 30th May 2019 to the 30th May 2020, please?

For ease of collation, figures for each practice could be entered into the table below:

Physical restraint	Seclusion	As required medication	Environmental restriction	Chemical restraint	Rapid tranquilisation	Any other strategies (please specify)

Response

1. NHS Borders use the following restrictive practices - physical restraint, seclusion, rapid tranquilisation & environmental restriction. We would not consider the practice of 'as required' medication as restrictive. Chemical restraint is taken as Rapid Tranquilisation and therefore not counted.
2. NHS Borders confirm that prone restraint is approved for use in our Board. Prone Restraint technique (controlled descent to floor) has been legally, tactically and medically reviewed for use.
3. Please find below the number of instances where someone with a diagnosis of autism and/or a learning disability admitted to a hospital-based assessment and treatment unit or any other NHS in-patient setting, including psychiatric wards in your health board area, has been subject to each of the following restrictive practices from the 1st June 2021 to the 1st June 2022 inclusive:

Physical restraint	Seclusion	As required medication	Environmental restriction	Chemical restraint	Rapid tranquilisation	Any other strategies (please specify)
14	<5	Not applicable	<5	Not applicable	Not recorded electronically*	

Please note we are able to provide the data for this year as this had been collated and held for audit purposes.

4. NHS Borders do not record the type of restrictive practice on our Datix system and therefore would be required to do a manual trawl of all mental health inpatient records to extract this data. The cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002 therefore we are not required to provide.
5. NHS Borders do not record the type of restrictive practice on our Datix system and therefore would be required to do a manual trawl of all mental health inpatient records to extract this data. The cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the FOI(S)A 2002 therefore we are not required to provide.

Please note that as NHS Borders is such a small Board the number of patients subject to restrictive practices is very small, and to provide further details of these 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(2)(ii) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. This is also in accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics 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.

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 **251-22** 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.