

Freedom of Information request 257-22

Request

- (1) The number of healthcare associated infections (HAI) that have occurred in the last six months. Please provide a breakdown by month and by hospital. If such a breakdown is not possible then please still provide the numbers.
- (2) The number of healthcare associated infections that then led to or was related or suspected to have led to patient death in the last six months. Please provide a breakdown by month and by hospital.

Response

1. Total Healthcare Associated Infections by month for the last 6 months is provided below. This data includes SAB, ECB and CDI and corresponds with the validated ARHAI Quarterly epidemiological data for Q3 and Q4 2021:

	Total
Jul-21	11
Aug-21	8
Sep-21	5
Oct-21	7
Nov-21	5
Dec-21	6

2. Please see national reports (web link below) published by ARHAI Scotland for all Boards using consistent surveillance methodology and definitions. Due to data validation processes associated with infection surveillance, this is the most recent available data. Therefore under Section 25 of the FOI(S)A 2002 this data is accessible from:-

[Clostridioides difficile infection, Escherichia coli bacteraemia, Staphylococcus aureus bacteraemia and Surgical Site Infection in Scotland \(windows.net\)](#)

3. NHS Borders does not routinely collect outcome data on deaths in relation to healthcare associated infections.

Under Section 15 Duty to provide advice and assistance please note National Records of Scotland (NRS) publishes death data relating to MRSA and C.diff in hospitals which may be of interest. However, this data does not clarify if infections were healthcare associated or acquired in the community:-

[Clostridium Difficile \(C.diff\) Deaths | National Records of Scotland \(nrscotland.gov.uk\)](#)

[MRSA Deaths | National Records of Scotland \(nrscotland.gov.uk\)](#)

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 **257-22** 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.