

## Freedom of Information request 662-22

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### Request

My research involves investigating the clinical management of functional neurological disorder (FND, also known as conversion disorder or functional seizures) in the NHS. Please would it be possible to be sent information on the following:

1. The number of NHS Functional neurological disorder/conversion disorder/functional seizure specific departments or centres in your Trust.
2. The most common diagnostic tests used in your Trust to diagnose patients with functional neurological disorder/conversion disorder/functional seizures in the last 5 years.
3. The most common treatments used in your Trust to support patients with Functional neurological disorder/conversion disorder/functional seizures in the last 5 years.
4. The number of patients in your Trust diagnosed with Functional neurological disorder/conversion disorder/functional seizures in the last 5 years

### Response

1. NHS Borders does not have a specific department or centre for Functional Neurological Disorder / Conversion Disorder / Functional Seizure Disorder. We have a Neurology Service that operates predominantly from the Borders General Hospital.
2. Clinical assessment is the most important diagnostic used in NHS Borders to diagnose patients with Functional Neurological Disorder / Conversion Disorder / Functional Seizure Disorder. A detailed understanding of past history, all symptoms and positive signs on examination are also common diagnostic tests that are used. These are supplemented with MRI, EEG, videos, video telemetry, and other tests as required.
3. A detailed discussion is held with NHS Borders patients diagnosed with Functional Neurological Disorder / Conversion Disorder / Functional Seizure Disorder and they are given an explanation about their condition. Some patients may be referred to the FND team in Edinburgh (possibly for CBT), and some patients are referred to Liaison Psychiatry if appropriate.
4. This information is not held electronically. The data may be held in a patient's record, but to extract this data would require a manual trawl of all patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.

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](mailto: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 **662-22** 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.