

Freedom of Information request 107-23

Request

I am writing to request the following information about the S2 funding agreement with the EU/EEA/Switzerland.

The UK-EU Withdrawal Agreement, UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement and UK-Swiss Social Security Coordination Convention continue to give patients in the UK access to the S2 scheme, if they meet the criteria, in the European Union and Switzerland.

The deal gives reciprocal rights to access planned treatment in the UK for eligible residents of EU member states and Switzerland.

Please provide the following information:

1. How many applications from UK patients for pre-planned treatment abroad have you approved in the following years: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022.
2. For patients requesting approval through the scheme, please provide the most frequently requested treatment type for each year: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022.
3. How many EU/EEA/Swiss patients have you approved for pre-planned treatment at your health board under the S2 scheme in the following years: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022.
4. For EU/EEA/Swiss patients requesting treatment at your board under the scheme, please provide the most frequently requested treatment type for each year: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022.

Response

1. NHS Borders have not approved any applications from UK patients for pre-planned treatment abroad in the calendar years 2019 to 2022.
2. NHS Borders have not received any applications from patients requesting approval through the scheme, therefore there no frequently requested treatment types for the calendar years 2019 to 2022.
3. NHS Borders have not approved any EU/EEA/Swiss patients for pre-planned treatment in the years 2019 to 2022.
4. NHS Borders have not had any EU/EEA/Swiss patients requesting treatment under the scheme, therefore there no frequently requested treatment types for the calendar years 2019 to 2022.

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 **107-23** 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.