

Freedom of Information request 155-23

Request

1. How many patients have been referred to an NHS plastic surgery/dermatology consultant for Rhinophyma since 2019 to date?
2. Of these patients how many have received Rhinophyma surgery through any method, on the NHS?
3. How many patients are currently awaiting surgery for Rhinophyma?
4. What is the average wait for the surgery after the consultant has given the go ahead?

Response

1. Patients requiring Plastic Surgery would be treated by NHS Borders tertiary services at NHS Lothian. Patients can be referred into services in more than one way and NHS Borders does not hold one data base with referral information. Therefore, please note under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere – NHS Lothian
2. The number of NHS Borders patients coded with a description of Rhinophyma on the reports received following treatment at NHS Lothian are:

	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	22/23 (to Sep)
Diagnosis Description: Rhinophyma	<5	0	0	0

3. As this service is not provided by NHS Borders, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere – NHS Lothian. foi@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk
4. As this service is not provided by NHS Borders, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere – NHS Lothian.

Please note, the email address for NHS Lothian Freedom of Information is : foi@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk.

As the number of events in some areas are very small and 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. Further information is available in the [ISD Statistical Disclosure Control Protocol](#).

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 **155-23** 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.