

Freedom of Information request 230-23

Request

The number of healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) reported by each health board in the past five years, along with the types of infections and the number of deaths caused by HAIs, broken down by financial year (18/19, 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, 22/23 year to date).

Response

The number of Healthcare Associated Infections reported by NHS Borders is published within the national reports by the Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infections (ARHAI) Scotland using consistent surveillance methodology and definitions across all Scottish Health Boards. Due to data validation processes associated with infection surveillance, this is the most recent available data. Therefore, under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act (FOI(S)A) 2002 this data is accessible from:-

[Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection \(ARHAI\) Scotland publications](#)

NHS Borders does not routinely collect outcome data on deaths in relation to healthcare associated infections. Therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

Under Section 15 Duty to provide advice and assistance please note National Records of Scotland (NRS) publish 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 \(\[nrscotland.gov.uk\]\(http://nrscotland.gov.uk\)\)](#)

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

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 **230-23** 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.

