## NHS Borders

Communications & Engagement

NHS Borders
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Borders General Hospital
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## Freedom of Information request 441-23

## Request

I'm writing to request copies of the following:

- 1. Any in place/in use health board policies, procedures, guidelines, protocols, pathways, training materials, memos, or other documents (electronic or hard copies), which address the diagnosis, investigation, and/or management, of any of the following:
  - (a) Pulsatile Tinnitus
  - (b) Non-pulsatile tinnitus i.e. all forms of tinnitus that are not pulsatile
  - (c) Functional Neurological Disorder (FND) (aka conversion disorder)
- 2. Any in place/in use policies, procedures, guidelines, protocols, pathways, training materials, memos, or other documents (electronic or hard-copies), of any of the hospitals within the remit of your health board, which address the diagnosis, investigation, and/or management, of any of the following:
  - (a) Pulsatile Tinnitus
  - (b) Non-pulsatile tinnitus
  - (c) Functional Neurological Disorder (FND)

## Response

1 & 2 (A) Pulsatile Tinnitus

Please find attached guidance provided by our ENT Consultant in relation to Pulsatile Tinnitus. No further documentation is held.



Pulsatile tinnitus.pdf

1 & 2 (B) Non-pulsatile tinnitus i.e. all forms of tinnitus that are not pulsatile

Please find attached British Society of Audiology National guidelines and department protocols we adhere to within NHS Borders:



1 & 2 (C) Functional Neurological Disorder (FND)

We do not have any policies, procedures, guidelines, protocols, pathways, memos.

We do, however have:

- 1. Two consultant neurologists part of the South East Scotland neurology team. S East Scotland benefits from international experts in the field of FND and both neurologists have extensive experience in the diagnosis and approach to treatment of FND.
- 2. All patients are provided with the online resources (depending on individual need): neurosymptoms.org (a highly regarded website used internationally and established and maintained by Prof Stone in Edinburgh); website for dissociative seizures, FND Hope support group and FND Portal details. One of the two neurologists is a founder member of the FND Society.
- 3. One of the consultants gives talks to junior, middle grade doctors, nursing staff and ANPs regularly on FND

Patients with FND are referred or managed together with Neurophysiotherapy, liaison psychiatry and referred as required to the Edinburgh FND team.

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 **441-23** 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, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife.