

## Freedom of Information request 477-23

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### Request

For all responses, please provide figures for the last three reported years.

1. What is the average length of stay in hospital for an individual who arrives at hospital due to a suspected acute (combined or otherwise) drug intoxication and then subsequently dies, were the drugs they had taken before they arrive at hospital were acknowledged in the cause of death?
2. What categories of emergency treatment, and in what proportions, are received in hospital by all those admitted for acute (combined and otherwise) drug intoxication?
3. What categories of emergency treatment, and in what proportions, are received in hospital by those admitted for acute (combined and otherwise) drug intoxication who are eventually discharged?
4. What categories of emergency treatment, and in what proportions, are received in hospital by those admitted for acute (combined and otherwise) drug intoxication which is eventually fatal?
5. What is the day rate for the following treatment:
  - o Acute drug intoxication – non elective short stay
  - o Acute drug intoxication – non-elective long stay
  - o Acute Combined drug intoxication – non elective short stay
  - o Acute combined drug intoxication – non elective long stay

### CLARIFICATION RECVD:

Would it be feasible to screen out over the counter medication, and then provide the figures for cases involving prescribed drug poisoning (or intoxication) and for illicit drug poisoning separately (for the last three reported years)? If not I will take the figure of them all together.

I believe the codes T40, and T42.4, and F10-19 on ICD-10 cover what I'm interested in.

### Response

1. The average length of stay in hospital for an individual who arrives at hospital due to a suspected acute (combined or otherwise) drug intoxication and then subsequently dies is:

Emergency Inpatient Deaths	Average Length of Stay (Days)		
	2020	2021	2022
Main Diagnosis	-	-	-
Secondary Diagnosis	4	5	4

2. The number of patients treated for drug intoxication is:

Emergency Inpatients	Total Treated		
	2020	2021	2022
Main Diagnosis	137	85	53
Secondary Diagnosis	459	366	299
<b>Total</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>352</b>

3. The number of patients treated for drug intoxication and discharged is:

Emergency Inpatients	Total Discharges		
	2020	2021	2022
Main Diagnosis	137	85	53
Secondary Diagnosis	444	354	286
<b>Total</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>339</b>

4. The number of patients who were treated for drug intoxication and who died is:

Emergency Inpatient Deaths	Number of Deaths		
	2020	2021	2022
Main Diagnosis	0	0	0
Secondary Diagnosis	15	12	13

5. Due to the impact of Covid 19, 2018/19 was the last financial year all NHS Boards were required to carry out a full costing exercise, therefore, the cost per day for 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22 is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

Under Section 15 of FOI(S)A 2002, NHS Borders does not cost down to an individual specialty level, however, any patients admitted to the hospital for drug intoxication would be admitted to a general medical ward and the cost per day would be £566 based on the 2018/19 ISD Scottish Health Service Cost Book.

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 **477-23** 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.