

Freedom of Information request 516-23

Request

Please may I request the following information from your health board. For ease of collation, the information could be provided in the tables provided after each question.

1. The numbers of patients who have been prescribed antidepressants in the following years after a phone consultation.

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 (SO FAR)

2. The numbers of patients who have been prescribed antidepressants in the following years after **one** GP consultation regarding their mental health.

2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 (SO FAR)

3. Can I also confirm if there is a method by which the NHS tracks side effects experienced from use of these drugs?

Antidepressants in this instance refers to any of the following classifications of drugs: SSRIs, SNRIs, NASSAs, TCAs, SARIs, MAOIs.

Response

- 1 & 2 All GP Practices in the Scottish Borders are independent contractors and not managed by NHS Borders. This information can be accessed by contacting the GP Practices directly, therefore please note under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this data is accessible elsewhere.

Under Section 15 of the FOI(S)A information on all GP practices within the Borders area is available at: [GP Surgeries – Scottish Borders](#) .

3. [Yellow Card | Making medicines and medical devices safer \(mhra.gov.uk\)](#) is a UK-wide scheme run by the Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) where side effects can be reported. Locally, these reports are reviewed by the Area Drugs and Therapeutics Committee.

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 **516-23** 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.