

Freedom of Information request 523-23

Request

Please see below a request for the following information relating to tongue tie in babies aged 0-12 months.

1. How many babies were born within your trust between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
2. How many babies were diagnosed with ankyloglossia (tongue tie) between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022 at your trust?
3. On average how many days after birth was a tongue tie diagnosis made between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
4. How many babies diagnosed with tongue tie were referred for a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
5. Is the frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) available to babies who are fully formula fed?
6. How many frenotomy procedures (tongue tie division) were carried out on babies at your trust between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
7. What was the average waiting time in days between diagnosis/ referral and a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
8. How many women had to wait 3 weeks or longer after a referral for a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) or their baby between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
9. How many women waited more than 6 weeks, 8 weeks, 12 weeks and 16 weeks or longer for a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) for their baby between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
10. What is the longest amount of time a women had to wait after a referral for a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) for their baby between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
11. If there is no tongue tie division service in your trust how many referrals were made to an alternative NHS Service for tongue toe division?
12. How many women declined the offer of a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) within the NHS between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022?
13. Of the women who declined the offer of a frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) within the NHS between Jan 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022 are you aware how many sought treatment privately instead?

Response

1. There were 839 babies born within NHS Borders in 2022.

2. – 4. NHS Borders and NHS Lothian (tertiary centre) do not electronically record this information specifically for the Borders and several professional groups may advise/refer including GPs, Health Visitor's, etc. with several routes to treatment including private. Therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.
5. The Frenotomy procedure (tongue tie division) is available through NHS Lothian for babies who are fully formula fed.
6. - 10. NHS Borders does not perform Frenotomies, referral is made to the Lothian Tongue Clinic, therefore, under Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 this data may be accessible elsewhere. For your information, please find a link to NHS Lothian.

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11. – 13. NHS Borders and NHS Lothian (tertiary centre) do not electronically record this information specifically for the Borders and several professional groups may advise/refer including GPs, Health Visitor's, etc. with several routes to treatment including private. Therefore, this information is not held, as defined in Section 17, Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

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 **523-23** 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.