

Freedom of Information request 577-23

Request

I'm seeking information on Alzheimer's disease testing.

For the last 12 months period, please could you provide:

1. The number of patients tested for Alzheimer's disease via lumbar puncture
2. The number of patients tested for Alzheimer's disease via PET scan
3. The number of patients tested for Alzheimer's disease via SPECT scan
4. The number of patients tested for Alzheimer's disease via MRI or CT scans

Response

1. The NHS Borders reporting system does not electronically record the diagnosis of a patient or the reason for a lumbar puncture test being carried out, therefore, it is not possible to identify the number of patients tested for Alzheimer's disease using this method. The data may be held in a patient's record, but to extract this data would require a manual trawl of all patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.
2. The NHS Borders reporting system does not electronically record the diagnosis of a patient or the reason for a PET Scan being carried out, therefore, it is not possible to identify the number of patients tested for Alzheimer's disease using this method. The data may be held in a patient's record, but to extract this data would require a manual trawl of all patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.
3. The NHS Borders reporting system does not electronically record the diagnosis of a patient or the reason for a SPECT Scan being carried out, therefore, it is not possible to identify the number of patients tested for Alzheimer's disease using this method. The data may be held in a patient's record, but to extract this data would require a manual trawl of all patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.
4. The NHS Borders reporting system does not electronically record the diagnosis of a patient or the reason for an MRI or CT Scan being carried out, therefore, it is not possible to identify the number of patients tested for Alzheimer's disease using this method. The data may be held in a patient's record, but to extract this data would require a manual trawl of all patient records and the cost of carrying out this work would exceed the limit set in the Fees Regulations of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 and under Section 12 we are not required to provide.

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 **577-23** 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.