

Information Governance

Medical Directorate
NHS Grampian
Rosehill House
Foresterhill Site
Cornhill Road
Aberdeen
AB25 2ZG



BY EMAIL

A Bhadani

[request-814428-
c82e5bb1@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:c82e5bb1@whatdotheyknow.com)

Date 6 January 2022
Our Ref FOI/2021/803
Enquiries to Information Governance Team
Extension 51319
Direct Line 01224 551319
Email gram.foi@nhs.scot

Dear A Bhadani

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

I refer to your e-mail dated 7 December 2021, requesting:

“- How many people who have made a request for PrEP under your jurisdiction through the NHS have been denied? Both as a figure, and as a percentage of total requests made for PrEP overall.^[L7]_[SEP]”

- In cases where people were denied access to PrEP under your jurisdiction through the NHS, what were the reasons given for refusal of PrEP?^[L7]_[SEP]”

- What is the demographic breakdown of people who were refused access to PrEP under your jurisdiction through the NHS?”

I can now respond as follows:

NHS Grampian Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Eligibility

In July 2017, NHS Grampian commenced provision of NHS funded HIV PrEP as per nationally agreed eligibility criteria. All data in this report is extracted from NaSH (National Sexual Health System), the national patient management system utilised in the majority of sexual health clinics in Scotland.

How many people who have made a request for PrEP under your jurisdiction through the NHS have been denied? Both as a figure, and as a percentage of total requests made for PrEP overall.

	People who do not meet the NHS eligibility criteria for PrEP	Total patients who have been prescribed PrEP
July 2017 – November 2021	233	994
Percentage of total requests	19%	n/a

All patients who request PrEP via the service will be offered an opportunity to discuss their eligibility with a trained clinician, in line with prescribing practices, and assessed against the eligibility criteria. The data above shows the number of patients eligible, and therefore have been prescribed PrEP, and those who have not met the eligibility criteria. The data includes patients who have requested PrEP but there may have been instances where patients have not requested PrEP directly, but have been assessed opportunistically, so this data is also included.

A full case note review of all 233 would be required to provide this data accurately; s.12 of the Act refers – Excessive cost of compliance.

In cases where people were denied access to PrEP under your jurisdiction through the NHS, what were the reasons given for refusal of PrEP?

The reason for refusal is due to not fulfilling the national agreed criteria.

What is the demographic breakdown of people who were refused access to PrEP under your jurisdiction through the NHS?

Gender:

>95% identify as male

Age:

16 - 25	61
26 - 35	99
36 - 45	42
46+	31

Sexuality:

95% identify as gay, bisexual or other men who have sex with men. Remainder not documented; s.17 of the Act refers – Information not held.

Under section 20 (1) of the Act, if you are dissatisfied with the way NHS Grampian has dealt with your request, you have a right to request a review of our actions and decisions in relation to your request, and you have a right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

A request for review must be made within 40 working days and should, in the first instance, be in writing to: Directorate of Corporate Communications, Foresterhill House, Foresterhill, Aberdeen, AB25 2ZB or by email to gram.foi@nhs.scot

Requests for appeal can be made by using the Scottish Information Commissioner's online service at www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal or should be made in writing to: Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9DS Telephone: 01334 464610, Fax: 01334 464611.

If you remain dissatisfied following an appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner your recourse is to the Court of Session on a point of law.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Bains', with a horizontal line underneath.

Roohi Bains
Information Governance Manager & Deputy DPO
NHS Grampian