

## Information Governance

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



BY EMAIL  
Elizabeth Morgan  
[request-738103-  
0cc9633c@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:0cc9633c@whatdotheyknow.com)

Date 16 April 2021  
Our Ref FOI/2021/191  
Enquiries to Information Governance Team  
Extension 51319  
Direct Line 01224 551319  
Email [gram.foi@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.foi@nhs.scot)

Dear Ms Morgan

### Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

I refer to your e-mail dated 18 March 2021, requesting:

*"I would like details of prescribing errors made by doctors and other medical professionals at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary (e.g. wrong drug on a prescription or the right drug but at the wrong dosage) each year since 2008.*

*Ideally, numbers broken down by the department e.g. dermatology, rheumatology, etc.*

*If there are any other figures around the types and consequences of prescribing errors I would like these too, e.g. numbers of deaths due to prescribing errors, number of medical negligence cases, etc.*

*I would also like to know if you have policies, procedures, etc. in place that cover prescribing errors and their reporting, if so please can I have copies covering the period 2008 to present.*

*If you also record near misses, I would like details of these too."*

I can now respond as follows:

**I would like details of prescribing errors made by doctors and other medical professionals at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary (e.g. wrong drug on a prescription or the right drug but at the wrong dosage) each year since 2008. Ideally, numbers broken down by the department e.g. dermatology, rheumatology, etc. AND, If there are any other figures around the types and consequences of prescribing errors I would like these too, e.g. numbers of deaths due to prescribing errors, number of medical negligence cases, etc.**

Please see the document attached for the period requested. Please note, small numbers in the tables have been represented by <5 as to provide the exact number may identify individual patients; s.38(1)(b) of the Act refers – Personal information of a third party.

**I would also like to know if you have policies, procedures, etc. in place that cover prescribing errors and their reporting, if so please can I have copies covering the period 2008 to present?**

Please see attached the relevant policies and procedures which are currently in place.

**If you also record near misses, I would like details of these too.**

Please see the table attached.

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](mailto:gram.foi@nhs.scot)

Requests for appeal can be made by using the Scottish Information Commissioner's online service at [www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal](http://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



**Roohi Bains**  
**Information Governance Manager & Deputy DPO**  
**NHS Grampian**