

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Date received	29/04/2022	Subject	Primary Care and Osteoporosis		
Passed to	Pharmacy Medical Imaging Primary Care Finance	Date passed	02/05/2022	Respond by	20/05/2022
Category	Charity	FOI number	2022-153		

Question/s to be answered

Dear Shetland NHS Board,

The Royal Osteoporosis Society, representing the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Osteoporosis and Bone Health, is making a Freedom of Information Act (FOI) request of all CCGs, Health Boards and Health and Social Care Trusts to assess the level of osteoporosis treatment in primary care.

The All Party Parliamentary Group has launched an inquiry into under-diagnosis and under-treatment of osteoporosis in primary care. To support the work of the group, Parliamentarians have asked for a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to be circulated to assess the level and quality of provision across the country. This is a positive, solution-focused Inquiry into how we can improve services for the 3.5m people living with osteoporosis in the UK.

Data will be used to assess how we can target future resources to ensure that all patients receive the highest level of care and that there is consistency of quality across commissioning areas.

We appreciate your help with this information gathering exercise, especially as we understand the pressures that healthcare services continue to experience.

Should any further information be required, please do not hesitate to contact Gareth Lloyd-Johnson on gareth.lloyd-johnson@theros.org.uk or 01761 473 137.

Yours faithfully,

Craig Jones,

Chief Executive, Royal Osteoporosis Society

1. For the financial years 2019/2020, 2020/2021 and 2021/22 how much did you spend on:

a. Osteoporosis medication with:

i. Oral bisphosphonates (alendronate, risedronate, ibandronate)

2019/2020

2020/2021

2021/2022

This information is exempt under FOISA s 25(1) as the information is otherwise accessible via Open Data sources:

<https://www.opendata.nhs.scot/dataset/prescriptions-in-the-community>

ii. Denosumab

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2019/2020

2020/2021

2021/2022

This information is exempt under FOISA s 25(1) as the information is otherwise accessible via Open Data sources:

<https://www.opendata.nhs.scot/dataset/prescriptions-in-the-community>

iii. DXA scans. Please provide:

- budget/spend for DXA:
2019/2020 – £9,900 – 1 visit
2020/2021 – £9,900 – 1 visit
2021/2022 – £19800 – 2 visits

- n. scans this provided:

2019/2020

2020/2021

2021/2022

NHS Shetland do not have a DEXA scanner; the scans are provided by a visiting service under an SLA.

- DXA VFA (vertebral fracture assessment) scans commissioned:

2019/2020

2020/2021

2021/2022

NHS Shetland do not have a DEXA scanner; the scans are provided by a visiting service under an SLA.

2. What proportion of GP practices have a systematic process in place (e.g., regular data search) for identifying people who require a fracture risk assessment?

None

3. What proportion of GP practices have osteoporosis identification/management tools embedded into their electronic patient management systems?

- a. FRAX
- b. QFracture
- c. Other (please state)

None

4. For financial years 2019/20, 2020/2021 and 2021/22.

a. What proportion of patients across your Health Board aged 50 and over had a fracture risk assessment using FRAX or QFracture in line with NICE / NOGG recommendations?

i. 2019/2020

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ii. 2020/2021

iii. 2021/2022

None – see Q3

b. What proportion of these were referred for a DXA scan?

i. 2019/2020

ii. 2020/2021

iii. 2021/2022

None – see Q3

5. What proportion of practices have an identified clinician or other healthcare professional with special interest in osteoporosis?

None

6. How much of your Additional Role Reimbursement Scheme funds have you invested into community pharmacists?

In accordance with FOISA s 17(1), NHS Shetland confirms that it does not hold the information requested. The Additional Role reimbursement Scheme is not a funding stream used in Scotland or a model used.

7. What proportion of GP practices have access to a community pharmacist (CP)?

a. What proportion of these CPs have a designated role in identifying/managing osteoporosis?

None - this is not a model used in Scotland.

b. What proportion of these CPs routinely perform osteoporosis medication reviews?

None - this is not a model used in Scotland.

8. What proportion of GP practices have access to a First Contact Practitioner (FCP)?

10%

a. What proportion of these FCPs have a designated role in identifying/managing OP?

0%

9. What proportion of patients being treated in primary care with osteoporosis medications have had a review of their medication within 12 months of treatment initiation?

In accordance with FOISA s 17(1), NHS Shetland confirms that it does not hold the information requested.

Collation of this information would require a clinical audit of individual patient notes as there is no agreed code for review used locally to find this information via searches and judgements/assumptions would need to be made.

In paragraph 46 of the Scottish Information Commissioner's briefing on FOISA s 17 (<https://www.itspublicknowledge.info/sites/default/files/2022-03/BriefingSection17Informationnoheld.pdf>) it is stated that "if collation of the information would require skill and complex judgement, the information is not held." For the reasons stated above, NHS Shetland considers that the collation of the requested information would

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require skill and complex judgement and so issues this notice that the information requested is not held, in accordance with FOISA s 17(1).

10. What proportion of patients being treated in primary care with oral bisphosphonate therapy have had their treatment reviewed at 5 years of treatment?

In accordance with FOISA s 17(1), NHS Shetland confirms that it does not hold the information requested.

Collation of this information would require a clinical audit of individual patient notes as there is no agreed code for review used locally to find this information via searches and judgements/assumptions would need to be made.

In paragraph 46 of the Scottish Information Commissioner's briefing on FOISA s 17 (<https://www.itspublicknowledge.info/sites/default/files/2022-03/BriefingSection17Informationnoheld.pdf>) it is stated that "if collation of the information would require skill and complex judgement, the information is not held." For the reasons stated above, NHS Shetland considers that the collation of the requested information would require skill and complex judgement and so issues this notice that the information requested is not held, in accordance with FOISA s 17(1).