

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

Date received	21/08/2022	Subject	Alcohol Related Admissions		
Passed to	Information Services Acute Services	Date passed	21/08/2022	Respond by	09/09/2022
Category	Private	FOI number	2022-332		

Question/s to be answered

I am looking for information regarding the number of people admitted to an Emergency Department due to alcohol-related reasons. As such, can you provide the following?

1. The total number of patients admitted, discharged or transferred to an A&E department for alcohol-related reasons/ excessive alcohol consumption, in the last three financial years (2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23)?

Year of Attendance at A&E	Total New-Return Unplanned Attendances
2020-21	193
2021-22	210
2022-23	90

NB: above based on free text search for the word "Alcohol" in presenting complaint, triage assessment or diagnosis. This is the best way to source the data held otherwise a clinician would need to review each A&E case record individually.

2. The total number of patients admitted, discharged or transferred to an A&E department with alcohol-related injuries, in the last three financial years (2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23)?

This level of detail not available in A&E system NHS Shetland uses in a manner that can produce the information requested.

3. How many patients admitted, discharged or transferred to an A&E department for alcohol-related reasons/ excessive alcohol consumption, in the last three financial years (2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23) were under 18 years of age?

Year of Attendance at A&E	Total New-Return Unplanned Attendances
2020-21	13
2021-22	13
2022-23	4

NB: above based on free text search for the word "Alcohol" in presenting complaint, triage assessment or diagnosis. This is the best way to source the data held otherwise a clinician would need to review each A&E case record individually.

Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002

4. The number of times stomach pumping procedures (gastric lavage or gastric irrigation) were performed on a) all patients admitted to an A&E department for alcohol-related reasons/ excessive alcohol consumption and b) those patients who were under 18 years of age, in the last three financial years (2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23)?

Procedures are not recorded in A&E system in a manner that we can access in Information Services.

5. What is the procedure if someone arrives at A&E due to alcohol-related reasons/ excessive alcohol consumption?

Patients attending A&E with alcohol related issues or alcohol intoxication are treated as per all patients attending. They would have their clinical needs met as per surgical or medical guidance. Those with alcohol excess would be monitored and admitted to the medical ward if further observation was required or discharged home once fit for discharge.