



Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group

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Ref: FOI 107

9 September 2019

Dear Requestor

Request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

On 13 August 2019 you sent a request, made under the Freedom of Information Act, relating to the exceptional cases system. I now provide this information as an attachment.

I trust that this is the information you require and that your request has been fully discharged.

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Please note that, under the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations, if you wish to publish or otherwise use this information besides for your own means, you will need to seek our permission to do so.

If you are unhappy with this response, you are entitled to request an internal review of our decision, handled where possible by a member of staff not directly involved in the initial decision. If you wish to request such a review, please write direct to the Data Protection Officer, NHS Dorset, Ground Floor, West Wing, Vespasian House, Barrack Road, Dorchester DT1 1TG. We aim to deal with requests for internal review within three weeks of receipt, although where the issues involved are very complicated this period may be extended up to a total of six weeks.

If you have queries about this response, please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

Signature Removed

Paddy Baker
Data Protection Officer
NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group

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Q1:

I would like to make an FOI request for information on the number of times doctors attempted to get patients treatment through the exceptional cases system in each of the last 5 years? (Exceptional cases as defined by this BBC article: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-40485724>)

Please could I also have the information for the number of times these were accepted?

Response:

Please see attached table outlining the numbers of requests (as outlined in the BBC link provided) which have been taken through the IFR process.

	No of Requests Received									
	2014/15	Approved	2015/16	Approved	2016/17	Approved	2017/18	Approved	2018/19	Approved
Removal of skin tags	<5	<5	0	0	<5	<5	0	0	0	0
Cosmetic surgery	10	<5	7	<5	8	<5	7	<5	10	<5
Varicose vein surgery	<5	<5	<5	<5	0	0	<5	<5	<5	<5
Plastic surgery	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
Fertility treatment	9	5	13	<4	19	5	5	<5	6	<5
Mental health care	5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
Cataract removal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carpal tunnel syndrome	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hip and knee surgery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Breast surgery	<5	<5	<5	<5	8	<5	5	5	8	<5