

RE: Freedom of Information Request 201718 / 078 – Breast Reconstruction

Your Query	Date of Request	May 2017
<p>I understand that 'free-flap'/'free tissue' reconstructions (a type of specialist reconstruction utilising patient tissue, with no implant or prosthesis) are carried out only in the Lothian, Greater Glasgow & Clyde, Grampian, and Tayside health boards. Patients who live outside these areas and require 'free-flap'/'free tissue' breast reconstructions are allocated to one of them to have their procedure. I have been instructed that these specialist procedures contracts/partnerships exist between all health boards in Scotland.</p> <p>Could you tell me what 'types' of breast reconstruction (e.g. 'free-flap'/'free tissue' reconstructions, implant/prosthesis reconstructions) NHS Orkney can provide to patients within the NHS Orkney health board? Can you also tell me, if patients are sent outside of NHS Orkney for either type of reconstruction, to which health boards are they allocated? If this is sometimes decided on a special circumstances or 'case by case' basis, please advise me how patients are generally allocated in normal circumstances. Could you also advise me which hospitals within the NHS Orkney health board conduct 'free-flap'/'free tissue' reconstructions?</p> <p>Please consider this email an official FOI request. If you need any more information or if anything needs clarifying, please do not hesitate to contact me. My contact details are below.</p>		
Response		
<p>NHS Orkney does not, and has never, carried out breast reconstruction in any form. Patients requiring these procedures are referred to NHS Grampian for assessment and are therefore treated in accordance with the NHS Grampian guidelines and protocols.</p>		

