

## **Request Dermatology Linked Mental Health Referrals - NI**

**Please provide the following information for the past three full calendar years 2022, 2023, 2024 and for 2025 to date.**

**Q1. The number of patients referred for mental health or psychological support where a dermatology or skin condition was recorded in any part of the referral record including diagnosis fields, contributing factors, referral reason notes or coding flags. If precise figures cannot be extracted, please provide any available count or estimate.**

(This information is not readily available/ This information is not centrally held.) To undertake this exercise would necessitate a manual interrogation of data which would involve a significant number of hours. This would exceed the costs limit specified in the FOI act.

We estimate that compliance with this (element of the) request for information would exceed the appropriate costs limit. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 2000, the limit has been specified as £450 and represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.

**Q2. If held, please provide any available breakdown of these referrals by age or age band. For example children, young people, adults or older adults, or any alternative grouping used in your system.**

(This information is not readily available/ This information is not centrally held.) To undertake this exercise would necessitate a manual interrogation of data which would involve a significant number of hours. This would exceed the costs limit specified in the FOI act.

We estimate that compliance with this (element of the) request for information would exceed the appropriate costs limit. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 2000, the limit has been specified as £450 and represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.

**Q3. The number of psychodermatology referrals recorded in each year, if this term or pathway is used within your Health Board. If psychodermatology is not coded separately or not offered, please confirm this and provide any available information on cases where dermatological conditions were linked to mental health support.**

(This information is not readily available/ This information is not centrally held.) To undertake this exercise would necessitate a manual interrogation of data which would involve a significant number of hours. This would exceed the costs limit specified in the FOI act.

We estimate that compliance with this (element of the) request for information would exceed the appropriate costs limit. Under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information 2000, the limit has been specified as £450 and represents the estimated cost of one or more persons spending 18 hours in determining whether we hold the information, locating, retrieving and extracting this information.

**Q4. The total number of dermatology referrals recorded in each year. If dermatology referrals are not coded separately, please supply any equivalent activity data such as outpatient dermatology attendances.**

From 1 November 2024 – 1 November 2025 a total of 10,025 referrals received.  
(including paediatric)