

February 10, 2022
Shelly Hipson
RR 3
Shelburne, NS B0T 1W0

Sent via e-mail to shellyhipson@xplornet.ca

Dear Shelly:

Re: Partial Access – OUR FILE# NSHA-2022-182

On November 22, 2021, Nova Scotia Health (NSH) received your request under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPOP Act)*.

We understand your application to be for a copy of the following:

1. *Data/reports on number of visits to doctors due to and resulting in*
 - 1.) *heart and*
 - 2.) *blood clot issues for*
 - a.) *the years 2018, 2019, 2020, and so far in 2021. and*
 - b.) *Please include the following age categories: under one year to 4 5-11, 12-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70-79, 80-89, 90+.*
- 3.) *Reports, data, correspondence, e-mails on these topics, (heart and blood clot issues) in relation to the COVID-19 vaccine.*

Please find a copy of the records located in response to your request. We have withheld personal information on under section 20(1) of the *FOIPOP Act*.

Section 20(1) of the *FOIPOP Act* states *the head of a public body shall refuse to disclose personal information to an applicant if the disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy.*

Section 20(3)(a) of the *FOIPOP Act* states *a disclosure of personal information is presumed to be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's personal privacy if the personal information relates to a medical, dental, psychiatric, psychological or other health-care history, diagnosis, condition, treatment or evaluation.*

Disclosing the emergency room data from each of these categories broken down by both age and year would be an unreasonable invasion of an individual's privacy under section 20(1) of the *FOIPOP Act* because the individuals could reasonably be identifiable. We have provided the emergency room data broken down by year only to protect individual's privacy.



Privacy Office; Legal Services
1-031 Centennial Building
1276 South Park Street
Halifax, NS B3H 2Y9
foipop@nshealth.ca

Disclosing the Deep Vein Thrombosis, Pulmonary Embolism, and Myocardial Infarction admission data broken down by both age and year would be an unreasonable invasion of an individual's privacy under section 20(1) of the *FOIPOP Act* because the individuals could reasonably be identifiable. We have provided the data broken down by year only to protect individual's privacy.

We will provide you with reports, data, correspondence, e-mails on these topics, (heart and blood clot issues) in relation to the COVID-19 vaccine by **February 28, 2022**.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

You have the right to seek a review with the Review Officer within 60 days of receiving this decision. Complete details of the process are outlined on the website of the Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner: <https://foipop.ns.ca/request-a-review>.

Sincerely,

Katie Smith
Freedom of Information Officer
Nova Scotia Health Authority
Halifax, Nova Scotia