

3 September 2021

Andrea Harris
(on behalf of Shane Reti MP)

Via email: shane.reti@parliament.govt.nz
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Tēnā koe Andrea

Official Information Act Request – OIA 13708 IV Chemotherapy

On 10 August 2021, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB):

Under section 12 of the Official Information Act 1982 I request all original communications including briefings, reports, memos, aides memoirs, cabinet papers and texts regarding the following information:

1. The utilisation rate for, outpatient or day stay attendance for IV chemotherapy, expressed as:
 - a. patients per chair per day (plus definition of a chair day)
 - b. occupancy expressed as percentage of time on average that a chemo chair is occupied, annually for the past 5 years.
2. Average waiting time for first treatment of, outpatient or day stay attendance for day stay IV chemotherapy, expressed in days per year for the past 5 years.
3. Number of, outpatient or day stay attendance for IV chemotherapy, nursing staff expressed as FTEs annually for the past 5 years in absolute numbers and then per capita.
4. Number of oncologists managing, outpatient or day stay attendance for IV chemotherapy, expressed as FTEs annually for the past 5 years in absolute numbers and then per capita.
5. Number of people who have had, outpatient or day stay attendance IV chemotherapy, expressed as total, Maori (absolute and as a percentage of the total) and Non Maori (absolute numbers and as a percentage of the total), annually for the past 5 years.

Where information is withheld, I request you provide the title and date of the communication /document withheld, the reason for refusal and the grounds in support of that reason as required by section 19 (a) (i) and (ii) of the Official Information Act.

Whanganui District Health Boards response:

Whanganui District Health Board domiciled patients receive IV chemotherapy through the Regional Cancer Treatment Service at MidCentral District Health Board. Information regarding utilisation, waiting times, staffing and volumes should be addressed to the service provider.

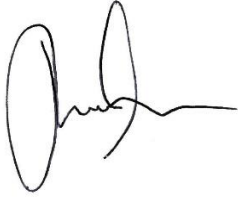
I therefore decline your request for this information as it is not held by WDHB. Section 18(G)(1).

Very small numbers (average less than one per annum) of paediatric patients receive their IV chemotherapy locally as inpatients under direction of Starship Hospital. These patients are difficult to quantify as they are admitted to the paediatric ward under their primary diagnosis, rather than the

treatment regime. Bed utilisation and nursing staffing for these patients is part of the overall paediatric service and would not be able to be separated from overall resourcing.

Should you have any further queries about the above information, please contact our OIA co-ordinator Anne Phoenix at anne.phoenix@wdhb.org.nz.

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'R' followed by a series of loops and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Russell Simpson
Chief Executive