

23 April 2020

Ashleigh McCaull
The AM Show Reporter/Producer

Via email: ashleighmccaull@mediaworks.co.nz



100 Heads Road, Private Bag 3003
Whanganui 4540, New Zealand

Dear Ashleigh

Official Information Act Request – OIA 12867 Misdiagnosis Complaints

On 15 April 2020, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB):

How many people have been misdiagnosed under the Whanganui District Health Board over the last 5 years across the country?

What ethnicity were these people who were misdiagnosed over the last 5 years?

What conditions were they diagnosed with originally and what was the proper diagnosis of these people over the last 5 years?

What did the hospital do to compensate those who were misdiagnosed over the last 5 years.

What part of the region were these patients from who had been misdiagnosed over the last 5 years ?

What hospital diagnosed these patients over the last 5 years?

What hospital were these patients re-diagnosed in over the last 5 years?

How many patients have died over the last 5 years from being misdiagnosed under the Whanganui District Health Board?

How old were these patients who were misdiagnosed over the last 5 years.

What gender were these patients who were misdiagnosed over the last 5 years.

Whanganui District Health Boards response:

How many people have been misdiagnosed under the Whanganui District Health Board over the last 5 years across the country?

Six people have been misdiagnosed under the Whanganui District Health Board over the last five years. The five-year period analysed is 01 April 2015 – 31 March 2020.

What ethnicity were these people who were misdiagnosed over the last 5 years?

NZ European x 3; Indian x 1; Russian x 1; Other European x 1

What conditions were they diagnosed with originally and what was the proper diagnosis of these people over the last 5 years?

Diagnosis 1	Diagnosis 2
Miscarriage	Viable pregnancy
MI	Pericarditis
Ultrasound reported as normal	Fetal Abnormalities were present
Multiple myeloma	Spinal abscess
Dehydration	Transient ischaemic attack
Heart failure	Cancer

What did the hospital do to compensate those who were misdiagnosed over the last 5 years?

The hospital does not provide compensation. All misdiagnoses are filed with ACC as a Treatment Injury.

What part of the region were these patients from who had been misdiagnosed over the last 5 years ?

All six were from the Whanganui city region.

What hospital diagnosed these patients over the last 5 years?

All six were originally diagnosed at Whanganui DHB.

What hospital were these patients re-diagnosed in over the last 5 years?

Five out of the six were re-diagnosed at Whanganui DHB; the sixth person was at Capital & Coast DHB.

How many patients have died over the last 5 years from being misdiagnosed under the Whanganui District Health Board?

No patients have died at Whanganui DHB from misdiagnosis over the last five years.

How old were these patients who were misdiagnosed over the last 5 years?

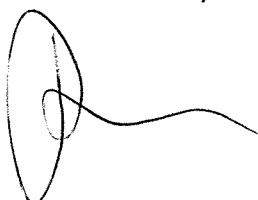
The age range of the patients was 25-69.

What gender were these patients who were misdiagnosed over the last 5 years?

There were four female patients and two male patients.

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

Yours sincerely



Russell Simpson
Chief Executive