

9 April 2019

Nita Blake-Persen
Radio New Zealand



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

Via email: Nita.Blake-Persen@rnz.co.nz

Dear Nita

Official Information Act Request – Non-Resident Ambulance Trips

Under section 14 of the Official Information Act, the Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB) received a partial transfer of your request from the Ministry of Health. You requested the following information:

I would like to request some information around the use of NZ's ambulance services by non-residents and tourists.

Could I please find out the following (broken down into year groups):

1. How many times over the past five years did non-residents needed emergency ambulance assistance?
2. How much have emergency assistance ambulance trips for non-residents cost over the past five years?
3. How much have non-urgent patient transfers of non-residents cost over the past five years?
4. What were the top five most expensive ambulance trips for non-residents?
5. Which districts had the most expensive ambulance costs for non-residents?

Whanganui District Health Board's response:

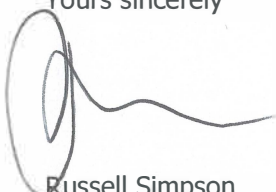
In response to questions 1, 2, 4 and 5 above, please be advised that Whanganui DHB do not hold this information.

3. How much have non-urgent patient transfers of non-residents cost over the past five years?
In the past five years one non-urgent patient transfer of a non-resident has occurred by air at a total cost of \$3236.00 + GST. This patient was a non-resident however was eligible for public hospital treatment in New Zealand.

We do not hold the information for patient transfers by road ambulance to other hospitals.

Should you have any further queries, please contact, contact our acting OIA co-ordinator Maree Langford at Maree.Langford@wdhb.co.nz

Yours sincerely



Russell Simpson
Chief Executive

Chief Executive | Phone 06 348 3140 | Fax 06 345 9390