



Health and Disability Commissioner
Te Toihau Hauora, Hauātanga

15 May 2019

Jan MacPherson

By email: Via FYI Website

Dear Ms MacPherson

Re: Information Request

Thank you for your request of 12 April 2019 asking for “the number of complaints against Dr Alan Farnell from his initiation into ACC assessment programme as a pain specialist.” On 24 April 2019, you clarified your request to be for “the number of complaints against Dr Alan Farnell, pain specialist since 2010.”

I have considered your request and have decided to withhold any complaint history information regarding Dr Farnell under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982. I consider that withholding such information is necessary to protect Dr Farnell’s privacy. I have taken various factors into account when making this decision and, as a result, I consider that any public interest in making the requested information available to you is outweighed by the privacy interests concerned.

You may seek a review of this decision from the Office of the Ombudsman.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Niki Wright'.

Niki Wright
Senior Official Information Act Advisor