



# MIDCENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD

*Te Pae Hauora o Ruahine o Tararua*

16 April 2020

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Ms Van Wey Lovatt

Email - [fyi-request-12509-6ab5ee8b@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-12509-6ab5ee8b@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Ms Van Wey Lovatt

## **Official Information Act (OIA) Request IA Y20-568 MDHB's best practice protocol for archiving, storage, or biobanking of human tissue for diagnostic purposes**

Your Official Information Act request on 22 March 2020 is acknowledged and was passed on to me for a response.

You have made the following four requests:

1. MDHB's best practice protocol for archiving, storage, or biobanking of human tissue for diagnostic purposes, whether they are formalin fixed, paraffin embedded or pathology slides, and the standards, legislation or scientific evidence which provides the basis for MDHB's protocol
2. Is MDHB protocol for archiving, storage, or biobanking of human tissue for diagnostic purposes, whether they are formalin fixed, paraffin embedded or pathology slides, based on a universally adopted standard within NZ or has MDHB determined its own policy
3. Potential hazards of leaving formalin fixed, paraffin embedded or pathology slides in an unsecure, non-temperature and non-humidity regulated environment for 2 months over a NZ summer: say a on an employee's desk which is open to the public and in a repurposed house adjacent to the hospital from mid-December to late February
4. Name of the independent agency or agencies which provides oversight for your medical laboratory

Your request is refused under section 18 (e) of the Official Information Act 1982 as the information requested does not exist.

This service is contracted by MidCentral District Health Board to Medlab Central Limited. We are therefore unable to provide the information requested.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of our decision by the Ombudsman. The Ombudsman's Office can be contacted on 0800 802 602 or on-line at <http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz/>

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the MidCentral DHB website ten working days after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Johnston', written in a cursive style.

Craig Johnston  
General Manager Strategy, Planning and Performance