



MIDCENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD

Te Pae Hauora o Ruahine o Tararua

22 June 2020

MidCentral District
Health Board
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Ms Van Wey Lovatt

Email - fyi-request-12509-6ab5ee8b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Van Wey Lovatt

**Official Information Act (OIA) Request OIA Y20-1105
regarding responses to request IA Y20-567 on requests from
third party providers of pathology specimens for second
opinion**

Your Official Information Act request on 29 May 2020 is acknowledged and was passed on to me for a response.

You have made the following four requests:

Request 1:

You have requested clarification on how the DHB can be assured that the clinical staff follow the best practice of their relevant professional colleges, if your DHB has not adopted a specific policy.

MidCentral DHB clinicians are subject to professional supervision, performance management and the continuing professional development requirements of their professional colleges and registration boards.

Request 2:

You have requested whether the DHB staff follow the RCPA policy regarding such requests?

MidCentral DHB clinicians follow the RCPA policy regarding second opinions requested by a third party.

Request 3:

You have requested a description of the DHB's standard practice regarding requests by third party providers for second opinions of pathology specimens.

MidCentral DHB clinicians request second pathology opinions through MedLab Central, the DHB's contracted Pathology and Laboratory Services provider. Medlab Central pathologists seek second opinions in accordance with the RCPA policy. All of the pathologists are Fellows of the Royal Australasian College of Pathologists and they conduct their practice in full accordance with the policies of that College. Their

procedures are annually scrutinized by the accrediting agency, IANZ, for compliance.

Request 4:

You have requested that in the event that the DHB's standard practice is inconsistent with the RCPA policy you request an explanation for why the DHB deviates from the professional standard set out by the RCPA policy.

As outlined above MidCentral's standard practice is consistent with the RCPA policy.

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