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22 April 2020

Amy S Van Wey Lovatt

Email: [fyi-request-12516-ca699389@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-12516-ca699389@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Amy

**Official information request W20-439**

I refer to your official information request dated 22 March 2020.

**Request:**

The Royal College of Pathologists Australasia has a policy titled "Provision of second opinions with particular reference to morphological examination", which addresses the best practice with regards to referral for second and subsequent opinion of pathology specimens.

**Request 1:**

I respectfully request your DHB's policy on second opinions requested by a third party who is a medical practitioner currently involved in the medical care of the patient from whom the pathological material was originally obtained.

**Request 2:**

In the event that your DHB deviates from the aforementioned RCPA policy, I request an explanation for why your DHB deviates from best practice.

Please note, my request does not reflect the standard of care provided at your DHB, but is to ascertain whether there is consistent adherence to RCPA best practice amongst all NZ DHBs.

**Response:**

All histopathology for Wairarapa DHB is contracted to Wellington SCL. We do not have access to the requested information.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Wairarapa District Health Board website no less than one week after the response has been provided to you. Any personal or identifying information will be redacted from any response published online. The DHB will endeavour to resolve any concerns you should raise but, subject to any legal grounds for withholding, ultimately reserves the right to publish any information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact:

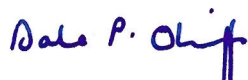
Caroline van Deventer

Communications Administrator

Email: [caroline.vanDeventer@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz](mailto:caroline.vanDeventer@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz)

Ph: 06 946 9800, ext 5840

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dale P. Oliff". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Dale Oliff

**Chief Executive**