

Tuesday, 21 April 2020

Amy S Van Wey Lovatt
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Re: Official Information Act Request – Best Practice: Archiving, Storage, Biobanking of Human Tissue for Diagnostic Purposes

Kia ora Amy

Thank you for your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982.

You asked:

Request 1:

I am writing to request a copy of the your DHB's best practice protocol for the 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 your DHB's protocol.

Request 2:

Is your DHB protocol for the 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 your DHB determined its own policy.

Request 3:

Please explain the 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.

Request 4:

Please provide me with the name of the independent agency or agencies which provides oversight for your medical laboratory.

Hauora Tairāwhiti's response is as follows:

The services described above are contracted by Hauora Tairāwhiti to Medlab Central. Hauora Tairāwhiti is therefore unable to provide the information requested.

If you are not satisfied with this response you may contact the Office of the Ombudsmen, phone 0800 802 602.

Please note this response or an edited version of this response may be published on the Hauora Tairāwhiti DHB website. Your personal/identifying information will be redacted from any responses published. If you feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Ngā mihi

Jim Green

Chief Executive