



MIDCENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD

Te Pae Hauora o Ruahine o Tararua

MidCentral District
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26 May 2020

Mr Nigel Gray

Email: fyi-request-12827-83ab6f33@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Gray

Official Information Act Request Y20-1068

We are in receipt of your Official Information Act request received 21 May 2020. An investigation of your request has been undertaken. We hope to address your requests below.

'Given the Electroconvulsive Treatment has been used as a method of torture historically in New Zealand, can you please inform me of the precise number of these devices in NZ hospitals in present time?'

MidCentral DHB has two ECT machines in calibrated working order: Somatics Thymatron System IV and a MECTA Spectrum.

MidCentral DHB does provide ECT for those few people who require this intervention and who meet the criteria. This procedure is performed in surgical conditions under anesthetic and all safety protocols are followed.

I trust this fulfils the requirements of your request. If you have any further questions, please submit a new request via email to oi@midcentraldhb.govt.nz.

If you are unsatisfied with any part of our response, you have the right, under section 28(3), to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman.

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

Yours sincerely

Scott Ambridge
Operations Executive
Mental Health & Addiction Services

MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTIONS SERVICES

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