

9 July 2020

Amy S Van Wey Lovatt

Email: fyi-request-12922-4e5afdf5@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Lovatt

Re: Official Information Act

I am responding on behalf of Taranaki District Health Board (DHB) to your OIA request of 29 May 2020, which was partially transferred to Taranaki DHB on 12 June 2020 by the Ministry of Health. You have requested the following information:

Request 4: Impersonation of a physician is fraud, and thus a crime. Further, the impersonation of a physician in a medical setting would be consistent with an incident which has the potential to cause harm to a patient. I request, for each DHB, the total number of incidents involving an allegation that a member of the public had impersonated a physician, between 1 May 2019 and 31 August 2019, and in the event there were such incidents reported, the date of the alleged incident, the names of the agencies the incidents were reported to, and a description of the evidence provided to support the allegation of the incident.

Taranaki DHB response: Nil.

Request 5: Unauthorised access, by a patient, to secure and restricted areas which require employee key-card access, such as surgical theatres and pathology laboratories, where diagnostic and biohazardous material are kept, would be an incident which has the potential to cause harm to a patient or DHB employee. Such an incident has the potential to be a crime, if it involved breaking and entering or theft of an employee key-card. I request, for each DHB, the total number of incidents involving an allegation that a member of the public had gained unauthorised access to a surgical theatre or pathology laboratory, between 1 May 2019 and 13 August 2019, and in the event there were such incidents reported, the date of the alleged incident, the names of the agencies the incidents were reported to, and a description of the evidence provided to support the allegation of the incident.

Taranaki DHB response: Nil.

Request 6: According to the MoH standards and legal precedent, patients' medical records are confidential and access is restricted to the purpose in which they were obtained (for the care and treatment of the patient) and may only be accessed with the patients consent. Please refer to HISO 10064 and the Health Information Privacy Code 1994]. MoH standards (HISO 10029:2015 Health Information Security Framework) requires DHB's to take steps to protect against re-routing or interception of private (email) communications, as the interception of private communications is a crime under section 216B of the Crimes Act. I request, for each DHB, the total number of incidents involving an allegation that a DHB employee had engaged in the interception of private email communications between a patient and a DHB employee, between 1 January

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2019 and 29 May 2020, and in the event there were such incidents reported, the dates of the incidents, the names of the agencies the incidents were reported to, a description of the evidence provided to support the allegation of the incident, and the outcome of the investigation into the incidents (e.g., District or High Court Case Number, Privacy Commissioner ruling, Ombudsman decision, Human Rights Tribunal ruling, etc.).”

Taranaki DHB response: Nil.

Taranaki DHB has a Code of Conduct policy which is signed by all Taranaki DHB employees when they commence employment. A copy of this policy is attached for your information.

I trust the above information answers your OIA request.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Campbell', followed by a period.

Gillian Campbell
Chief Operating Officer

Enc.