

5 August 2021

Ms Sacha van den Berg  
Email: [fyi-request-15576-aacd18fc@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-15576-aacd18fc@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Ms van den Berg

**Re: Official Information Act Request 2191**

I refer to your Official Information Act request received on 6 July 2021 in which you specifically requested the following:

- **How many PET CT scans have been referred per year the past 3 years?**  
2018 – 342  
2019 – 412  
2020 – 337  
Please note that this is per calendar year.
- **How many PET CT scans have been referred this year so far?**  
So far this year 284 patients have been referred.
- **What percentage of the patients being referred are Maori?**  
The Southern DHB referral system does not capture information around ethnicity. We are refusing this section of the request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act 1982, as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.
- **What is the average cost per PET CT scan referral?**  
The average cost per PET scan is \$2,028.

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/>.

Yours sincerely



Chris Fleming  
Chief Executive Officer