



23 February 2022

Paul Blackham  
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Dear Paul

### **Official Information Act Request**

You have asked for information about patients with heart disease.

*I am seeking the number of people that have visited any/all hospitals and doctor's surgeries within the NDHB for any/all heart related issues, (including but not limited to pericarditis, myocarditis, heart attacks and strokes). The data requested is for the 11 month period from February 2021 until December 2021 inclusive, displayed in month by month format, and compared to the monthly data for the previous three years.*

Northland DHB has four hospitals; Kaitaia, Bay of Islands, Dargaville and Whangarei. The data requested is in the attached spreadsheet and includes both inpatient and outpatient attendances at these hospitals. Inpatient admission events for December 2021 have not been included as the coding process for these admissions has not been completed.

Please note that stroke is coded within circulatory/brain issue coding and is not included under the heart conditions coding category. Stroke is also a generic term describing conditions that may be caused by different factors. The inpatient data supplied includes both cardiac and relevant circulatory/brain issue admissions.

We do not hold data for patients presenting to primary care ie general practice/medical centres regarding heart or stroke related conditions.

If you have any queries about Northland DHB's response to your information request please contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Nick Chamberlain', written over a faint circular watermark of a person's head and shoulders.

**Dr Nick Chamberlain**  
**Chief Executive**