



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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11 March 2022

Paul Blackham

Email: fyi-request-18404-f87e9f0c@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Paul Blackham

RE Official Information Act request WCDHB 9662

I refer to your email dated 1 February 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB. Specifically:

The number of people that have visited any/all hospitals and doctor's surgeries within the WCDHB 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.

Response

Please refer to **Appendix 1** (attached) for details of inpatients admitted to our secondary care facility, Te Nikau Grey Hospital, for stroke and for heart related issues over the past four years as requested. Given the particularly wide scope of the request, this admission data has been clustered by diagnostic related groupings where stroke and heart related issues were the primary reason for admission.

West Coast DHB does not hold a central record of outpatient attendances or community contact visits by our various DHB medical and allied health services in such a way that we can easily determine the number of people that have visited any of our hospital-based services for any/all heart issues. The only such information that may be recorded being that held in individual clinical case notes and patient records as may be pertinent to individual patient concerned. We therefore decline to provide additional information that may or may not be held if we undertook a manual research of each of individual patients' case notes under Section 18 (f) of the Official Information Act i.e. *"... that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research."*


We do not collect data relating to the specific reasons that individual patients present for consultations at their respective General Practices that operate with the West Coast DHB region. We therefore decline your request for additional information in this regard under Section 18(g) of the Official Information Act i.e. *"... that the information requested is not held"* by the West Coast DHB.

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

You may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek a review of our decision to withhold information by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz; or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the West Coast DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely



Ralph La Salle
Senior Manager, OIAs
Canterbury DHB & West Coast DHB

Appendix 1 9662 - Inpatients Admitted to Te Nikau Grey Hospital with a Primary Diagnosis of Stroke or for Heart-related Conditions, 2018 – 2021.

Year	Month	Acute Myocardial Infarction	Arrhythmia, Cardiac Arrest and Conduction Disorders	Congenital Heart Disease	Coronary Atherosclerosis	Heart Failure and Shock	Infective Endocarditis	Other Circulatory Disorders - Heart related	Stroke and Related Cerebrovascular Disorders	Unstable Angina	Valvular Disorders	Grand Total
2018	January	4	14		2	5		1	4	6	1	37
	February	9	17		3	2		3	3	4		41
	March	9	12		4	3		3	5	5		41
	April	5	11		1	4	2	2	8	2	1	36
	May	6	14			6			6	10	1	43
	June	7	12		2	9		1	2	4	3	40
	July	7	9		3	5		3	7	4		38
	August	8	14		1	7			6	1		37
	September	10	6		1	4		2	3	1	1	28
	October	8	13		1	6	2	3	6	1	1	41
	November	3	12		2	7		1	5	1		31
	December	6	17			5	1	2	2	3	1	37
2018 Total		82	151		20	63	5	21	57	42	9	450
2019	January	7	12		2	2		2	1	1		27
	February	6	17		2	5		1	7	6		44
	March	3	3		8	7			3	2	1	27
	April	7	14		4	5	1		9	5		45
	May	2	10		5	8			6	2		33
	June	7	11		1	7		1	6	1	1	35
	July	9	12		2	10		3	6	2	2	46
	August	5	14		3	8	2	1	6	4		43
	September	3	8		3	9	1	1	6	2	2	35
	October	3	7		2	7			3	2	2	26
	November	6	8		3	8	1	1	5		2	34
	December	7	12		3	4	1	2	3	1	1	34
2019 Total		65	128		38	80	6	12	61	28	11	429
2020	January	6	14		1	4			10	3	1	39
	February	6	8		5	5		5	4	3		36
	March	6	13		2	3	1		7	2	1	35
	April	9	3		4	1	1	2	3	1	1	25
	May	6	9			4	1	3	5	1		29
	June	2	10		1	6		1	12	2	2	36
	July	7	14		3	4		2	5	5	1	41
	August	7	11		5	7		4	6	1	1	42
	September	10	18		3	11		2	6	2	1	53
	October	4	14		1	9	1	1	7	1	1	39
	November	3	11		7	4	1	3	7	4	7	47
	December	6	16		1	11		1	2	2	1	40
2020 Total		72	141		33	69	5	24	74	27	17	462
2021	January	7	7		2	10		1	6	4	4	41
	February	4	13		3	1			7		2	30
	March	11	15		5	8		3	10	2	3	57
	April	5	13		1	5		1	12	3		40

	May	7	12			6	1	2	20	4	1	53
	June	6	9		3	9		1	5	3	1	37
	July	8	12		4	14			10		1	49
	August	5	10	1	1	8		2	6	3	2	38
	September	8	9		2	5		3	5	2		34
	October	4	9		4	9		3	5	2		36
	November	5	12		7	7		1	3	2	1	38
	December	5	14			1		2	3	2	4	31
2021 Total		75	135	1	32	83	1	19	92	27	19	484

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT