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Tēnā koe Emma

Official Information Act Request

I write further to my letter of 12 July 2022. You have asked for information about outsourced procedures.

I would like to request the following information for each of the DHBs in New Zealand, split by DHB.

1. *The total number of procedures outsourced by year (including the year to date) for the past five years.*
2. *For each year, provide a breakdown of the type of procedure.*

Please see information in the following table which summarises the procedures outsourced by specialty over the five calendar years and the YTD (to 31 May 2022). This includes those procedures completed on a fully private basis and those with a mix of Northland DHB and private theatre staff performed in a non-NDHB site. There are over 400 individual procedure types outsourced over this period.

Count Speciality	Year					
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Dental Surgery				47	72	3
Endoscopy	211	375	18		10	
ENT	50	164	200	123	39	80
General Surgery	25	39	32	12	36	16
Gynaecology	4	13	3		15	
Ophthalmology	755	793	876	669	730	278
Orthopaedic	186	233	194	211	279	93
Plastic Surgery	3				1	
Urology	51	75	129	117	8	
Grand Total	1285	1692	1452	1179	1190	470

3. *For each year, provide the total spend on outsourced elective surgeries.*

The table below summarises the cost of the outsourced procedures as recorded above. Please note that this excludes fees paid to private Anaesthetists and/or surgeons. Our financial reporting system does not capture the difference between locums and private fees.

Sum of Outsourced charges	Year				
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total	\$ 2,178,952	\$ 3,070,572	\$ 2,905,281	\$ 2,968,564	\$ 3,695,010

4. For each year, provide the amount that these surgeries would have cost the DHBs if they had not been outsourced.

Outsourcing is routinely conducted due to a lack of in house capacity. Accordingly completing these procedures in house was not possible. The cost difference between completing procedures in house versus outsourced varies depending on the contractual arrangements and procedure type.

If you have any questions, you can contact us at OIA@northlanddhb.org.nz.

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Health NZ has decided to proactively release a copy of this response on Health NZ's website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Tracey Schiebli

Interim District Director

Te Tai Tokerau / Northern Region