

17 March 2023

Anna

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Tēnā koe Anna

### Official information request HNZ00011571

Thank you for your email on 16 February 2023, asking for the following which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

*“May I please have the numbers of New Zealanders diagnosed with Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, or other spongiform encephalopathies for the following years? 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 (if any data is available so far)”.*

On 20 February 2023, you confirmed that you were happy to refine your request to the below:

*“May I please have the numbers of New Zealanders hospitalised for Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease FOR EACH YEAR from 2017 – 2023”.*

Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand does not hold national level data on the numbers of people diagnosed with CJD in New Zealand. We hold information on the numbers of hospitalisations with this diagnosis. This would not include people who had CJD, but did not require treatment for the condition in a hospital.

The 2021/2022 financial year is the latest year for which complete national level hospital events data is available. We have therefore provided data on hospitalisations from 2016/17 to 2021/22.

*Table 1: The number of New Zealanders hospitalised for Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) for each financial year from 2016/17-2021/22*

Financial years	Discharges
2016/17	4
2017/18	18
2018/19	8
2019/20	6
2020/21	4
2021/22	5

*Please note, people hospitalised multiple times (transfers, readmissions, and multiple incidents) are also counted each time.*

As provided to you on 20 February 2023, the University of Otago’s Department of Medicine maintains a CJD registry that is also available from <https://www.otago.ac.nz/cjd-registry/index.html>

### How to get in contact

If you have any questions, you can contact us at [h.nzOIA@health.govt.nz](mailto:h.nzOIA@health.govt.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](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Te Whatu Ora may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available on our website.

Nāku iti noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Gaynor Bradfield  
**Manager**  
**Office of the Chief Data and Digital**