

24 April 2023

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Tēnā koe Amy

Your request for Official information, reference: HNZ00015506

Thank you for your email on 14 April 2023, asking for the following which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

"I am writing to request information under the Official Information Act 1982, concerning traumatic brain injury (TBI) admissions to hospitals in New Zealand between the years 1985 and 1987.

Specifically, I would like to request the following data:

- *The total number of TBI admissions to hospitals during the years 1985, 1986, and 1987.*
- *The breakdown of TBI admissions by age group (e.g., under 18, 18-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65 and over) for each year.*
- *The breakdown of TBI admissions by gender for each year.*
- *The primary causes of TBI (e.g., falls, motor vehicle accidents, sports injuries, assaults) for each year, with the number of cases for each cause.*
- *The severity of TBIs (e.g., mild, moderate, severe) for each year, with the number of cases for each severity level.*
- *The average length of hospital stay for TBI patients for each year.*
- *The number of TBI-related fatalities for each year."*

Your request for this information is refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as this information does not exist, and despite reasonable efforts to locate it, the information requested cannot be found.

The date range was a period where the health boards only had hospital computers for financial records - the National Minimum Dataset System. NMDS is used for policy formation, performance monitoring, research and review. It provides statistical information, reports, and analyses about the trends in the delivery of hospital inpatient and day-patient health services both nationally and on a provider basis. The current NMDS was introduced in 1999. The original NMDS was implemented in 1993 and backloaded with public hospital information from 1988 therefore we are unable to locate the requested information which dates back to the years between 1985 and 1987.

How to get in touch

If you have any questions, you can contact us at 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 or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Michael Cleary

Acting OIA Manager

Government Services