



9 February 2015

Phone (06) 356 9169
Fax (06) 350 8818

Postal Address:
Private Bag 11036
Manawatu Mail Centre
Palmerston North 4442
New Zealand

Physical Address:
Ruahine Street
Palmerston North
New Zealand

Ms Alecia Rousseau

Email: fyi-request-2401-91cfa146@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Ms Rousseau

**Official Information Act request -
Child Abuse Statistics**

I reply in response to your Official Information Act request seeking the following information from MidCentral District Health Board:

How many cases of child abuse were seen at Palmerston North Hospital in 2014?

What were the ages of these children?

What ethnicities were these children?

What were the ages of these children?

What were the circumstances surrounding each case?

Who were the main offenders?

Children present to Palmerston North Hospital with a wide range of health issues. The presenting health issue, e.g. a broken arm, is recorded and coded. Whilst the likely cause of the health issue may be noted in the clinical record, it is not coded. We are therefore unable to provide the information you request in your questions listed above.

How many cases were referred to Police or CYFS?

We do not make explicit referrals to police however in emergency situations the police may be called by us.

We do make reports of concern to CYFS and have done so on 97 occasions, noting that these may have been made by any of our services and not just Palmerston North Hospital. These reports are reports of concern only, and are not necessarily about a case of proven or suspected child abuse.

Yours sincerely

Muriel Hancock

Director

Patient Safety and Clinical Effectiveness

Patient Safety & Clinical Effectiveness

MidCentral Health, PO Box 2056, Palmerston North 4440
Telephone (06) 350 8030, Fax (06) 350 8042