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Megan Rae
JustSpeak

Email: fyi-request-3573-be528451@requests.fyi.org.nz;

Dear Megan

Official Information Act request CDHB 9302

We refer to your email dated 22 January 2016 under section 12 of the Official Information requesting information relating to:

- ***Waiting list for Forensic psychiatry services including the total number of prisoners placed on the waiting list for inpatient services during the course of the most recent year you have records for and the length of time, in days, each prisoner spent on the waiting list.***

The forensic community team staff provide a consultation and liaison role to the Christchurch Prisons and are available for advice and emergency contacts at other times, except out of normal working hours when advice is provided by the Crisis Resolution Service. The Forensic Prison team (FPT) is comprised of a group of mental health professionals from the Forensic Community Team.

All patients who screen positive on the Prison Screening Tool for mental illness are generally seen within 7 days. They are initially triaged into risk groups and those considered at high risk or urgent are assessed within 24-48 hours, semi-urgent within 3 days.

If an offender requires an inpatient admission, they will be placed on a waitlist and case managed until admitted to the medium secure unit or their symptoms ameliorate. They will receive the following care while in custody:

- Psychiatrist or psychiatric registrar assessment, regular review and treatment for prisoners who present at high-risk for deliberate self-harm, or major mental illness.
- Review of progress and monitoring in treatment by FPT nurses.
- Maori Mental Health assessment and support for Maori patients under the care of FPT.

If an offender is to be in the 'at risk' unit (ARU) at the prison, the following support is offered:

- The ARU provides placement and supervision of inmates who are considered at significant risk of deliberate self-harm, or are significantly vulnerable to diminished self-care, and require a highly structured and closely monitored environment. This may occur in the presence or absence of major mental illness.

- The FPT provides consultation and liaison to health services within the ARU for prisoners held IN this part of the prison, who also meet criteria for FPT care.
- Prisoners under FPT care in the ARU are reviewed by an FPT clinician at least once a week (unless there are rare and clearly identified reasons for this not to happen).
- FPT staff also provide phone support to ARU health staff at other times.
- FPT staff discuss progress and consider feedback about the patient's presentation from ARU Corrections and Health Staff.
- In addition all ARU FPT patients are discussed at a combined FPT/ Corrections Health weekly Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) meeting.

The graph below shows 23 people were placed on the waiting list for inpatient services during the course of the 2015 calendar year and the length of time, in days, each prisoner spent on the waiting list.

Person waiting	Wait in calendar days	Comments
1	2	
2	31	
3	1	
4	30	
5	9	
6	155	
7	41	
8	16	admitted out of area
9	56	did not proceed to admission
10	53	
11	35	
12	44	did not proceed to admission
13	8	
14	27	
15	2	
16	1	
17	21	did not proceed to admission
18	2	
19	3	
20	2	
21	2	
22	2	
23	1	

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely



Carolyn Gullery
General Manager,
Planning, Funding & Decision Support