



Waitemata
District Health Board
Best Care for Everyone

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21 February 2018

Jem Traylen

Sent via email to fyi-request-7183-6fe83dc4@requests.fyi.org.nz

Re: Availability of surgeon capable of performing gender reassignment surgeries

Dear Jem

Thank you for your Official Information Act request that Waitemata DHB received on 28 January 2018 seeking availability of surgeons capable of performing gender reassignment surgery.

In response, I can advise that Waitemata DHB does not perform gender reassignment surgeries such as genital reconstruction and is not considering recruiting a specialist with these skills.

If a Waitemata DHB resident requires referral for this surgery, then an application to the Ministry of Health High Cost Treatment Pool is completed by a DHB-employed medical specialist. This surgery is not presently performed in New Zealand and the Ministry of Health manages arrangements for all New Zealanders with overseas providers.

Should a decision be made nationally to provide this surgery in New Zealand at a future date, Waitemata DHB will work with the Ministry of Health to ensure there is equitable access to this service for our population.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A Brant'.

Dr Andrew Brant
Chief Medical Officer & Deputy CEO
WAITEMATA DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD