

29 MAY 2018

P Lamborn
Email: fyi-request-7905-4c0c9124@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: H201803871

Dear P Lamborn

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request of 23 May 2018 under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), as follows:

- a. *What technique did the Walker team use for vaginoplasty?*
- b. *When searching for a replacement vaginoplasty surgeon, what, if any, technique did the ministry prefer that its candidates be skilled in? What review or investigation did the ministry conduct to determine which techniques are preferable?*
- c. *When searching for phalloplasty surgeons overseas, what, if any, technique did the ministry prefer that its surgeons perform? What review or investigation did the ministry conduct to determine which techniques are preferable?"*

The information relating to this request is itemised in the table below.

Request	Response
<i>a. What technique did the Walker team use for vaginoplasty?</i>	The Walker team performed the caeco-colonic vaginoplasty.
<i>b. When searching for a replacement vaginoplasty surgeon, what, if any, technique did the ministry prefer that its candidates be skilled in? What review or investigation did the ministry conduct to determine which techniques are preferable?</i>	The Ministry of Health has not been involved in the search for a replacement surgeon.
<i>c. When searching for phalloplasty surgeons overseas, what, if any, technique did the ministry prefer that its surgeons perform? What review or investigation did the ministry conduct to determine which techniques are preferable?</i>	The choice of surgeon is a decision for the referring DHB specialist, in consultation with the person who will undergo surgery.

I trust this information fulfils your request.

Yours sincerely



Dr Andrew Simpson
Chief Medical Officer