



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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23 March 2018

[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

RE Official information request WCDHB 9099

I refer to your email dated 19 February 2018 requesting the following information under section 12 of the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB.

Please provide, for the 2008 and 2017 calendar years (broken down by year):

- 1. The number of people admitted to emergency departments who were given a clinical code (either as primary diagnosis or otherwise) related to amphetamine (use/abuse/withdrawal/dependence, so on)?**

We do not code our records for people who present at our Emergency Departments. Details of the nature and related complications of each presentation are only held as written records within each individual patient's case note files.

To give some perspective, there are some 11,500 individual emergency department presentations at our hospital services each year. We are therefore declining providing the data you are seeking for the period requested under Section 18 (f) of the Official Information Act; i.e.: *"...that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research"*.

- 2. The same for patients admitted to acute mental health services**

The West Coast DHB was not collecting this data in an easily retrievable form in 2008. We are therefore declining this portion of your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act i.e. the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research. We can, however, provide you with the information for 2011 to give our response context.

In 2011, one person was admitted to West Coast DHB mental health inpatient units, and was given an amphetamine related diagnosis. For 2017, this figure was two people.

Please note that an amphetamine related diagnosis may not always be entered against an admission if it was not the primary focus of treatment for example someone may be admitted with a drug-induced psychosis, this will be recorded as psychosis.

3. The same for CADS

The West Coast DHB was not collecting this data in an easily retrievable form in 2008. We are therefore declining this portion of your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act i.e. the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research. We can, however, provide you with the information for 2011 to give our response context.

In 2011, there were no people assessed by West Coast DHB CADS (Community Alcohol and Drugs Service) and who were given an amphetamine related diagnosis. In 2017, this figure was 7.

If you disagree with our decision to withhold information you may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek an investigation and review of our decision from the Ombudsman.

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the West Coast DHB website.

Yours sincerely



Carolyn Gullery
General Manager
Planning, Funding & Decision Support