

CORPORATE OFFICE

Level 1
32 Oxford Terrace
Christchurch Central
CHRISTCHURCH 8011

Telephone: 0064 3 364 4160
Fax: 0064 3 364 4165
Ralph.Jasalle@cdhb.health.nz

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9(2)(a)

RE Official information request CDHB 10453

I refer to your email dated 24 September 2020 to the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and which they subsequently partially transferred to Canterbury DHB on 19 October 2020, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act. Specifically Questions 2 and 3 as below:

- 2. To date, how many returnees have indicated, or it has been discovered by MIQ staff, they have health and wellbeing issues requiring assessment/treatment by a clinician?**
- 3. To date, how many returnees have indicated, or it has been discovered by MIQ staff, they have addiction issues requiring assessment/treatment by a clinician?**

The information you are seeking is not held in an easily retrievable data system. To provide a response to your questions above would require us manually reading through hundreds of nurse shift reports which would entail a substantial amount of time and resource. We are therefore declining your request pursuant to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act.

I can tell you, however, we check to ensure that everyone arriving at a Canterbury DHB isolation facility has an NHI (National Health Index number*) and if they don't they are provided with one. If they become unwell when in our facility, a 24-hour urgent medical centre provides clinical support for all our guests in managed isolation. They are able to provide telehealth consultation and if a guest requires further assessment there is a dedicated COVID stream where they can be assessed.

If someone is referred/transferred to hospital within their 14 days isolation, we continue to manage that isolation within our hospital. The process which is in place to deal with this situation (either Christchurch Hospital or Hillmorton Hospital) is as follows, and is an excerpt from the Canterbury DHB Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Service "COVID-19 Guidelines for Patient Management (includes Influenza and Influenza-like Illnesses Supplement)" (October 2020):

Medical Transfer from Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facility

Regardless of reason for admission, the following applies to admissions from Managed Isolation and Quarantine Facilities (MIQF):

- 24 hours and/or ACNM MIQF will co-ordinate admission with the receiving unit e.g. ED, SARA, GAU, Maternity, SMHS
- ACNM MIQF will notify Infection Prevention & Control Service of admission.
- Strict isolation precautions required (“ENHANCED DROPLET AND CONTACT PRECAUTIONS”)
- Single room with dedicated shower/ensuite required with door kept closed.
- A negative pressure room (with an anteroom facility and ensuite) as directed and if available

MIQF specific considerations

- Covid-19 swabs need to be taken on Days 3 and 12 of the managed isolation period. Additional screening may be required on a case by case basis on direction of C&PH or responsible medical officer.
- Visiting restrictions apply i.e. no visitors, unless an MBIE exemption has been requested and granted
- Movement restrictions apply to inpatient admission during their 14-day managed isolation period. The patient is to remain in their room unless a specific procedure is being undertaken
- If the patient attempts to abscond, notify CDHB Security and report event to Police (call 111), clearly stating patient is from a managed isolation facility

Staff PPE must include:

- o Disposable, fluid resistant gown (long sleeved)
- o Gloves
- o Surgical mask
- o Eye protection (eg safety glasses or face shield)
- Staff must follow Standard Precautions at all times in addition to Enhanced Contact and Droplet precautions.
- Particular care must be taken to avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth with contaminated hands (gloved or un-gloved). Keep hands below shoulders.
- All PPE must be removed on leaving the room and disposed of in medical (yellow) waste stream.
- Reusable eye protection should be disinfected using Clinell Universal wipes.

Other considerations

- Nebulisers should be avoided. Consider alternative method of medication delivery.
- Educate patient on the importance of correct Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Hygiene and Cough Etiquette practice
- Monitor daily for symptoms – if patient becomes symptomatic, consider COVID swab (in consultation with Infectious Diseases/Clinical Microbiologist).

*National Health Index entitlements can be found on the Ministry of Health website:

<https://www.health.govt.nz/new-zealand-health-system/claims-provider-payments-and-entitlements/national-health-index-entitlements#:~:text=The%20National%20Health%20Index%20number,with%20that%20person's%20demographic%20details.>

You may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek a review of our decision to withhold information by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz; or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Canterbury DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R La Salle', is positioned above the typed name.

Ralph La Salle
Acting Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support