

Canterbury
District Health Board
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CORPORATE OFFICE

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RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10046

I refer to your email dated 27 February 2019, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

- **Please provide information showing the number of procedures performed at Canterbury district health board in 2018 involving surgical mesh. Please provide the same information for 2019, and the 9 prior years to 2018 (2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009).**
- **Please provide a breakdown showing what these procedures were for (i.e implantation for SUI, removal, partial removal etc. Please note the 'categories' listed are examples, and provided to assist in understanding with the nature of this request. They are not absolute nor exhaustive).**

Please refer to **Appendix 1 - Table one** (attached overleaf) for requested information since 1 July 2017 to 28 February 2019.

The identification of use of mesh in hernias and sling procedures coding has only been available from 1 July 2017, we are therefore unable to provide you with the information requested prior to this date without looking at individual patient files. We are declining this information under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act as to do this would entail a substantial amount of time and resource.

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. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz; or Freephone 0800 802 602.

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 Canterbury DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely



Carolyn Gullery
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support

Appendix 1 Table one:

Description	Calendar year		
	2017	2018	2019
Repair of incisional hernia	2	6	1
Repair of other abdominal wall hernia	1	1	
Repair of incisional hernia with prosthesis	25	60	4
Repair of other abdominal wall hernia with prosthesis	3	12	
Repair of parastomal hernia	2	5	
Repair of parastomal hernia with re-siting of stoma	1		
Repair of diaphragmatic hernia, abdominal approach	1	2	
Repair of diaphragmatic hernia, thoracic approach		1	
Laparoscopic repair of femoral hernia, unilateral	3	4	
Laparoscopic repair of inguinal hernia, unilateral	104	221	33
Laparoscopic repair of inguinal hernia, bilateral	13	38	4
Repair of femoral hernia, unilateral	2	8	1
Repair of femoral hernia, bilateral		2	
Repair of inguinal hernia, unilateral	65	123	9
Repair of inguinal hernia, bilateral	5	8	
Repair of incarcerated, obstructed or strangulated hernia	15	35	4
Repair of umbilical hernia	35	73	11
Repair of epigastric hernia	4	14	3
Sling procedure for stress incontinence, female	20	36	
Revision of sling procedure for stress incontinence, female		2	1
Transvaginal needle suspension for stress incontinence		1	
Retropubic procedure for stress incontinence, male		1	
Retropubic procedure for stress incontinence, female	4		
Injection of paraurethral bulk for stress incontinence, female		1	
Repair of diaphragmatic hernia with use of body wall flap or insertion of prosthetic patch		2	
Total	305	656	71

Notes:

- 2017 is from 1/07/2017 (therefore half a year)
- 2019 is for discharges to 28/2/2019 (note that not all discharges may have been coded at time of extract)
- Across the three years there are 557 Hernia events that have not been identified in coding as to whether a mesh was used or not, they are omitted from the above data.