

CORPORATE OFFICE

Level 1
32 Oxford Terrace
Christchurch Central
CHRISTCHURCH 8011

Telephone: 0064 3 364 4160
Fax: 0064 3 364 4165
carolyn.gullery@cdhb.health.nz

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9(2)(a)

RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10113

I refer to your email dated 17 May 2019 sent to the Ministry of Health who subsequently partially transferred your request to us on 29 May 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically Questions 2(a) and 5.

2(a) How many psychologists are in paid employment within the various DHB's inpatient mental health services?

The Specialist Mental Health Service currently employs 8.7 full time equivalent registered psychologists working in our inpatient units.

We currently employ 81.9 FTE registered psychologists across the Specialist Mental Health Service which comprises inpatient and outpatient services.

5. What psychological services are funded by the Ministry of Health where a psychologist needs a masters level or higher qualification?

To practice as a Psychologist a person must have Registration with the NZ Psychologists Board and this requires a minimum of a Master's Degree plus a period of supervised practice (for registration in the Psychologist Scope of Practice). Most of our psychologists have further specialist qualifications in clinical Psychology (and have a Clinical Psychology Scope of Practice) or Child and Family Psychology.

All psychologists in our service work to their position descriptions. Their profession specific skills include psychological assessment (including cognitive and neuro psychological functioning) and treatment using psychological therapy modalities. They also often provide supervision and consultancy about psychological issues (for psychologists and other staff) as well as being involved in training and research.

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