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16 July 2021

9(2)(a)

RE Official information Act request CDHB 10661

I refer to your email dated 9 July 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

- **All information and documentation regarding the decision to select patients for transmasculine chest reconstruction surgery from the GP referral pool via a number randomisation technique.**

As we explained to you in our previous response to Official Information Act request CDHB 10555 sent to you 21 April 2021;

"The reason for the use of a number randomisation technique is to ensure equity of access is maintained, because with the decision in 2019 to provide surgery for five transgender cases per annum there was a fast uptake by informed GPs sending in referrals for their patients, creating a demand that exceeds capacity. The number randomisation technique ensures we maintain equity within and around transgender and general plastic surgery patients."

We have checked with the Plastic Surgery Department and they advise that nothing has changed from your previous enquiry and there is no further information we can provide you. We are therefore declining your request pursuant to section 18(g) of the Official Information Act.

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



Tracey Maisey
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support