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9(2)(a)

RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10592

I refer to your email dated 27 March 2021 to the Ministry of Health which they subsequently transferred to us 21 April 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB regarding Mental Health (compulsory assessment and treatment) Act 1992. Specifically:

- 1. What is the ethnicity of psychiatrists currently working in the DHB psychiatric inpatient units and what is the ethnicity of allied clinical staff working in DHB inpatient psychiatric units?**

| Ethnicity* | Psychiatrists | Allied Health |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| New Zealand European | 10 | 24 |
| Maori | 0 | 0 |
| European other | 7 | 4 |
| Other | <5 | 0 |

Note: *Numbers have been aggregated when ethnicity volume is <5 pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act to protect individual privacy.

- 2. What DHB protocols are there for ensuring Maori clinical staff care for Maori tangata whaiora?**

While we actively recruit Māori clinical staff, we do not currently have sufficient numbers of Maori clinical staff to ensure that they are able to care for Māori tangata whaiora and we do not have DHB protocols specifically to ensure Māori clinical staff care for Māori tangata whaiora.

Specialist Mental Health Service (SMHS) have Pukenga Atawhai who are the specialist cultural practitioners who work within the multidisciplinary teams of most service areas within SMHS. Their primary role is to provide Te Arotakenga (cultural assessment) and cultural assistance for tangata whaiora and their whānau and assisting clinical teams to ensure that the cultural aspects of care form part of the overall clinical treatment plan. SMHS also has clinical and service delivery processes in place, to support Pukenga Atawhai to participate in care delivery, in partnership with Māori tangata whaiora, at key stages in assessment, treatment and discharge.

I trust this satisfies your interest in this matter.

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



Ralph La Salle

**Acting Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support**