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9(2)(a)

RE Official information request CDHB 10533

We are writing to acknowledge your email dated 25 January 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

When the new Waipapa building opened at Christchurch hospital, a release was sent out saying that on Sunday December 12, 359 patients were treated at Christchurch Hospital -- a record number for a single day where a large-scale emergency hadn't occurred.

The influx followed a record-breaking week of patients presenting to the hospital.

Lockdown: The Ministry of Health's data on emergency department attendances in 2020 shows the number of attendances in May 2020 was higher by 200 visits than a year earlier, with roughly 400 more visits in both June and July.

1. Can you provide the number of attendances to the emergency department over May, June and July last year -- and the same data for the year before?

Table one: Christchurch Hospital Emergency Department Presentations

Month	Number of Presentations		Difference
	2019	2020	
May	8715	7207	-1508
Jun	8501	8107	-394
Jul	8846	8681	-165
Total	26062	23995	-2067

Note: According to our local data ED activity did not increase from 2019 to 2020 in the relevant months.

2. Can you provide the number of ED attendances related to alcohol during May, June and July last year -- and the same data for the year before?

Please refer to **Table two** (overleaf) for Christchurch Hospital Emergency Department – alcohol related presentations.

Table two Christchurch Hospital Emergency Department – Alcohol related presentations

Month	Number of Alcohol related Presentations		Difference
	2019	2020	
May	274	211	-63
Jun	231	216	-15
Jul	258	196	-62
Total	763	623	-140

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