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9(2)(a)

RE Official information request CDHB 10419

I refer to your email dated 3 September 2020 to the Ministry of Health which they subsequently transferred to us on 15 September 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

- In the last five years how many endoscopy consents were undertaken by nurses and could I please get a breakdown of the procedures these consents related to (e.g, gastroscopy, colonoscopy, ERCP, etc)? I also want to know who conducted the procedure.**
 - Nurse led consent in endoscopy was only introduced to the Canterbury DHB in May 2020 as part one of the two step consent process.
 - Step 1:** Nurses provide the patient with relevant procedural information in a private room, prior to the procedure. They check the patient understands the risks and complications and ask if they have any further questions for them (or the doctor) to answer.
 - Step 2:** Occurs when the doctor undertaking the procedure meets the patient in the pre-procedure waiting area and completes the consent process.
 - They consent for diagnostic gastroscopy and colonoscopy and flexible sigmoidoscopy and capsule endoscopy only.
- In the last five years how many endoscopy consents were done by doctors and could I please get a breakdown of the procedures these consents related to? I also want to know who conducted the procedure.**

Up until May 2020 doctors completed all of the consent process.

Table one: Number of Endoscopy consents

Year	# consents by doctors
2019	9480
2018	8972
2017	9208
2016	8733
2015	8801

This relates to any gastrointestinal endoscopy procedure undertaken in the Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Unit at Christchurch Hospital.

3. For the last five years, can you please state how many high-risk endoscopy procedures (based on what you classify as high-risk procedures) nurses consented patients to?

There were no 'high risk endoscopy procedures' nurses consented patients to over the last five years.

4. In the last five years, how many deaths have been attributed to endoscopy procedures?

This information is not currently held in an easily retrievable electronic format and would only be held on the patient file. To provide this information would entail substantial research and collation, i.e. we would have to manually look through individual patient files. We are therefore declining a response to this question pursuant to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act.

I can tell you that moving forward we will have a collated view of complications due to improvements brought about by the National Bowel Screening Programme.

5. What is best practice in terms of who (i.e. doctors or nurses) should be consenting patients to endoscopy procedures? Should consent be obtained by the clinician conducting the procedure?

- The Canterbury DHB supports a two-step process. (outlined under Question 1)
- Nurses provide the correct information in a private space in a language the patient understands before the doctor completes the process prior to the procedure.

There is also information regarding endoscopy procedures which is publicly available on our HealthInfo website <https://www.healthinfo.org.nz/>

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