

Canterbury

District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora o Waitaha

CORPORATE OFFICE

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24 September 2019

9(2)(a)

RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10176

I refer to your email received on 29 August 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB related to measles notifications and test results. Specifically.

- **The number of samples tested by the National Measles Laboratory for measles**
- **The number that tested positive for measles**
- **The genotype of the positive measles viruses**
- **The number of samples that tested positive for the measles vaccine virus.**

We are declining your request under section 18(d) of the Official Information Act i.e. “...the information requested is, or will soon be, publicly available”. The Ministry of Health’s Immunisation Team are working with the National Measles and Rubella Laboratory (NMRL) based in Christchurch, in responding to a Written Parliamentary Question for a request similar to the information you are seeking and the response will be made publicly available on the Ministry of Health website in the next six to eight weeks.

Please note: The Ministry of Health and Canterbury DHB have responded to numerous Official Information Act requests over the past months in relation to the Measles Outbreak and our responses are posted on our websites.

For requests for numbers of MMR vaccines that have caused measles (zero), I refer you to the response published on the Ministry of Health website: <https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h201906326.pdf/>

Official Information Act request Responses relating to the Measles outbreak from Canterbury DHB can be found at: https://www.cdhb.health.nz/about-us/document-library/?_sft_document_type=official-information-act-response (search ‘Measles’) and there is also information on the Canterbury DHB website which was set up to provide public information around the Measles outbreak, <https://www.cdhb.health.nz/your-health/information-about-the-canterbury-measles-outbreak-2019/>

For any requests regarding confirmed numbers/cases of Measles the weekly reports are publicly available on the ESR website: <https://surv.esr.cri.nz/surveillance/WeeklyMeaslesRpt.php>. The reports are updated weekly.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gullery', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Carolyn Gullery
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support