

## CORPORATE OFFICE

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21 June 2021

9(2)(a)

### RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10612

I refer to your email dated 26 May 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

1. How many children aged 0-14 have presented to hospital with a dog-related injury in the last year?
2. How many of those children required a procedure (e.g. sutures), or admission?
3. What were the ethnic and age demographics of those children?

There were 54 patients aged 0-14 years who presented to Canterbury DHB's Emergency Departments over the last 12 months (June 2020 – May 2021) with dog bites. A third (18) were admitted to hospital from the Emergency Department (ED). (**Note:** this is comparable with previous years).

Please refer to **Table one** (below) for breakdown by demographics.

**Table one:**

	Number
<b>Age</b>	
Age 0-4	16
Age 5-9	25
Age 10-14	13
<b>Ethnicity</b>	
European	31
Maori/Pacific/Asian*	23
<b>Gender</b>	
Female	26
Male	28

**Note:** We have aggregated Maori/Pacific/Asian information pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act i.e. " ... to protect the privacy of natural persons, including those deceased". (Numbers for Pacific and Asian were <5 each).

We are declining to provide information regarding any other presentations related to 'dogs' as this information is not held in an easily retrievable electronic data system and would require a substantial amount of time and resource to identify. (Declined pursuant to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act.

I trust that 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](http://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 blue ink, appearing to read 'R La Salle'.

Ralph La Salle  
**Acting Executive Director**  
**Planning, Funding & Decision Support**