

CORPORATE OFFICE

Level 1
32 Oxford Terrace
Christchurch Central
CHRISTCHURCH 8011

Telephone: 0064 3 364 4160
Fax: 0064 3 364 4165
Ralph.Lasalle@cdhb.health.nz

28 January 2021

9(2)(a)

RE Official information request CDHB 10520

I refer to your email dated 6 January 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

- **The total number of body part items returned to patients by the DHB during the calendar years of 2020, 2019, and 2018, broken down by the specific type of body part (including but not limited to, body tissue, bones, organs, placentas/products of conception) returned each year.**

Please refer to **Appendix 1** which contains a list and number of body part items returned to patients by Canterbury Health Laboratories during the calendar years 2018 – 2020.

Please note: the data from Canterbury Health Laboratories is specifically from patients who have had procedures and surgeries that required Histological testing, as requested by clinical teams. Besides this, the Canterbury DHB does not have a central data system which records body part items returned to patients. This information is usually recorded in the patient's individual clinical notes and would require a substantial amount of research and time to collate across the DHB.

We are therefore declining to provide any further information in response to your request, pursuant to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act, i.e. *"that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research..."*

I trust this satisfies your interest in this matter.

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

Appendix 1:

Number and list of body part items returned to patients by Canterbury Health Laboratories during the calendar years 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Canterbury Health Laboratories: Number of Body Parts Returned to Patients by Year				
	2018	2019	2020	Total
Adrenal			1	1
Aorta	2			2
Appendix	17	17	19	53
Bladder		1		1
Bone	1	1	4	6
Bowel	8	7	5	20
Brain	2	1		3
Breast	4	2	5	11
Endometrium		4	1	5
Eye	1	1		2
Fallopian tube	33	27	48	108
Gallbladder	11	16	29	56
Kidney	1	1	1	3
Liver	1		1	2
Lung	1		5	6
Lymph node		1		1
Oesophagus			1	1
Ovary	18	4	22	44
Pancreas		2	1	3
Parathyroid	1			1
Placenta	82	91	78	251
Products of conception	72	64	93	229
Prostate	2	1		3
Skin	2	2		4
Soft tissue	2	5	8	15
Spleen	1		1	2
Testis	1	2	3	6
Thyroid	4	5	1	10
Tonsil	1			1
Trachea			1	1
Uterus	24	17	26	67
Total	292	272	354	918