



CORPORATE OFFICE

Level 1
32 Oxford Terrace
Christchurch Central
CHRISTCHURCH 8011

Telephone: 0064 3 364 4160
Fax: 0064 3 364 4165
carolyn.gullery@cdhb.health.nz

2 March 2020

9(2)(a)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10269 and WCDHB 9393

I refer to your email dated 5 February 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB and West Coast DHB. Specifically, regarding gender reassignment hormone therapy.

1. How many people were referred to the DHB for gender reassignment hormone therapy in each calendar year in 2018 and 2019?
2. How many were treated within the DHB and how many were referred to another DHB? If so, where?
3. What was the breakdown of ages in each of those years (youngest/ oldest/ median age)?
4. How many were transitioning male to female and how many female to male in each of those years?

We do not hold the data that you have requested in a central data system, for the most part the information would be held in the letters of referral or in individual patient case notes, and there were 12,653 Endocrinology attendances in 2018 and 2019 calendar years (including 308 for the West Coast DHB). For this reason, we are declining to provide specific information pursuant to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act i.e. “... the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.”

We have managed to obtain some information for you, but we cannot guarantee that this data covers all referrals for gender reassignment hormone therapy.

Canterbury DHB received electronic GP referrals to the Endocrinology Department in calendar years 2018 and 2019 for gender reassignment hormone therapy (including advice about hormone therapy) as per **Table one** (below).

Table one:

Year	Number of referrals	Number of patients*	Gender information Male to Female	Gender information Female to Male	Non-binary	Age at referral
2018	31	29	18	13		16-63 years Median 26 years
2019	46	42	32	12	2	15-57 years Median 22 years

*Some patients were referred more than once and may appear in each year's data. There are 68 individual patients represented above. **Please note:** All patients have had at least one Outpatient clinic contact at Canterbury DHB and two are about to be seen.

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 and West Coast DHB websites after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

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

Carolyn Gullery
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support