

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

23 March 2021

9(2)(a)

RE Official information request CDHB 10548

I refer to your email dated 25 February 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

1. **During which period was ECT used in gay conversion/aversion therapy at the hospital?**
 - a. **When did the hospital stop the practice?**
2. **How common was this practice?**
3. **Are there any records about the number of patients who received this treatment?**
4. **Why was this used as a treatment?**

Canterbury DHB does not hold any information in an easily retrievable electronic system regarding ECT being used in gay conversion/aversion therapy. If the information requested exists it would be in individual historic patient files and would require a substantial, and prohibitive, amount of resource and time to identify.

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

You may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek a review of our decision to decline/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