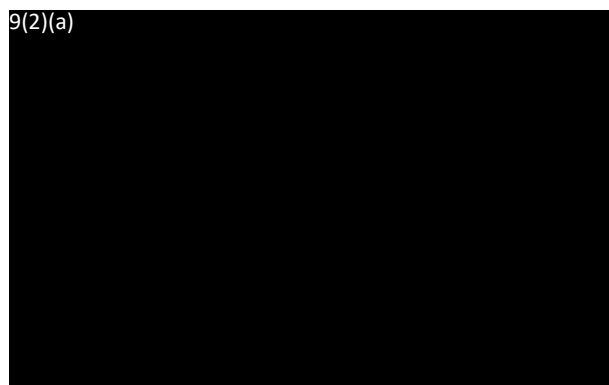


6 July 2022



**Official Information Act request CDHB 10890**

I refer to your email dated 8 June 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

- **What are the Eating Disorder Clinical Guidelines for decision making around which referrals are accepted into SIEDS outpatient team, or referred to CAF South/North outpatient team, or other adult mental health services?**

South Island Eating Disorder Service (SIEDS) accepts urgent referrals from GPs for people aged 12 to 65 years with a diagnosed eating disorder associated with imminent health risk (e.g. very low body weight, continuing dramatic weight loss, abnormal blood results), and non-urgent referrals in people aged 12 to 65 years with a diagnosed or suspected eating disorder and possible health risks, which are not imminent.

SIEDS provides consult liaison services to the South Island across the education and health sector. The health sector includes primary care, and physical and mental health. SIEDS accepts referrals for consult liaison from child and adolescent teams and adult teams in Canterbury as well as the rest of the South Island.

CAF South/North outpatients and adult mental health services accepts referrals where an eating disorder is not the primary diagnosis but nevertheless, they may be a feature of their clinical presentation. In those cases, SIEDS accepts referrals from those services for consult liaison input.

- **What are the numbers for referrals for Eating Disorder support through SIEDS for 2017 - 2021 (broken in to year groups), and the breakdown of which pathway the referral was eventually directed (SIEDS outpatient team, CAF outpatient team, or other adult community support)?**

**Table one:** Number of referrals received for the Eating Disorders Team between 2017 and 2021 calendar years.

Calendar years	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Grand Total
EDT*	216	232	225	267	166	1106
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>1106</b>

\*EDT - Eating Disorders Team (outpatient)

We do not record which pathway the referral was eventually directed.

- **What are the numbers of patients that are not accepted to direct SIEDS outpatient support, who then later require inpatient care in C Ward from 2017 - 2021?**

We are unable to extract this information from our clinical records. When people are referred for SIEDS outpatient support, there are a range of activities that may take place prior to the clinical decision to decline, for example – assessment, information gathering and clarification. This is then not captured as a case declined

- **How many complaints have been received regarding wait times, or inability to access SIEDS support (both inpatient and outpatient) from 2017 - 2021?**

There were seven complaints made in total regarding wait times, or inability to access SIEDS support (both inpatient and outpatient) for the period 2017 – 2021.

- **What are the clinical guidelines around discharge from C Ward?**

Treatment goals are established with the individual consumer and their family/whanau prior to an admission to C Ward. Discharge from C Ward is based on the person achieving the shared goals. Discharge from C Ward may occur prior to this point if ongoing admission is not beneficial to the person.

- **What are the wait times for access to inpatient care in C Ward 2017 - 2021 (average wait, longest wait, shortest wait, broken in to year groups)**

We are unable to calculate wait times as C Ward does not keep retrospective data on people waiting to be admitted. Consumers waiting to be admitted are already under the care of a service in the South Island.

- **How many regional admissions are there to C Ward (2017- 2021)?**

**Table two:** Regional admissions to C Ward (2017-2021)

	Calendar years					
District Referrals	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
C Ward	9	6	15	12	16	58

- **What is the policy around using the Mental Health Act for people to receive inpatient treatment in C Ward for Eating Disorder support?**

The decision to use the Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992 (MHA) is assessed according to criteria set by the MHA. This is not based on a person’s diagnosis. For further information about the MHA please refer :

[Guidelines to the Mental Health \(Compulsory Assessment and Treatment\) Act 1992 | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

- **How many people have been under the Mental Health Act for Eating Disorder Support from 2017 - 2021? (broken into year groups and aged under 18 and over 18).**

We are unable to provide this level of information without looking at individual files. This is because the use of the Mental Health Act is not linked to a specific treating teams or diagnosis and may occur during treatment by any service within the Specialist Mental Health Services. Many of the consumers with a relationship with the Eating Disorders Service also accessed other services within Specialist Mental Health Services, either concurrently with other teams or within the same year.

We decline to provide the above information pursuant to section 18(f) of the Act i.e. “would entail a search of individual patient records which would take a substantial amount of time and resource”.

- **What is the policy around repeated use of the Mental Health Act for C Ward admissions?**

There is no CDHB policy relating to inpatient treatment and the repeated use of the MHA. A decision to place a person under the Mental Health Act is determined by the responsible clinician according to the criteria set by the legislation.

- **Is there a policy stating that the Mental Health Act can only be used once?**

The Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992 (MHA) does not set any limits on the number of times a person is placed under compulsory treatment.

For further guidance about the use of the Mental Health Act please refer to:

[Guidelines to the Mental Health \(Compulsory Assessment and Treatment\) Act 1992 | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

- **What are the clinical guidelines for care of people diagnosed with severe and enduring Anorexia?**

The clinical guidelines for care of people diagnosed with severe and enduring Anorexia is as outlined in the [Royal Australian and NZ college of psychiatrist clinical practice guidelines for the treatment of eating disorders](#).

- **How many inpatient beds will be available in the new hospital based at Hillmorton?**

Eating disorders will continue to have the same number of beds available in the new building at Hillmorton Hospital as it has currently has at The Princess Margaret Hospital (eight).

- **Will the new ward be a closed or open ward?**

The new ward will be open.

- **Will the new ward be combined with the Mothers and Baby's ward or separated?**

The new ward will be combined with Mothers and Babies ward.

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 Waitaha Canterbury website after your receipt of this response.

Ngā mihi / Yours sincerely,



Ralph La Salle  
**Senior Manager, OIAs**  
**Waitaha Canterbury / Te Tai o Poutini West Coast.**