

13 February 2020

Ms Kate McCallum  
Mediaworks NZ



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100 Heads Road, Private Bag 3003  
Whanganui 4540, New Zealand

**Via email:** [katemccallum@mediaworks.co.nz](mailto:katemccallum@mediaworks.co.nz)

Dear Ms McCallum

**Official Information Act Request –OIA#12743 : colonoscopies**

On 14 January 2020, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB):

I am seeking the following information under the Official Information Act which relates to colonoscopies for the time period from 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019.

1. Breakdown in terms of numbers for each type of GP referral that were declined and accepted?
  - 1A. Non urgent referrals
  - 1B. Urgent referrals
2. Breakdown in terms of numbers for each type of specialist referral that were declined and accepted?
  - 2A. Non urgent referrals
  - 2B. Urgent referrals
  - 2C. Emergency department referrals
3. Once the following referral has been accepted how long before seeing a specialist?
  - 3A. Non urgent referrals
  - 3B. Urgent referrals
  - 3C. Emergency department referrals
4. How long from the patient first presenting to receiving a colonoscopy and if cancer detected at what stage?
  - 4A. Non urgent referrals
  - 4B. Urgent referrals
  - 4C. Emergency department referrals
  - 4D. Specialist referral
  - 4E. GP referral
5. How many colonoscopies was your DHB funded for the time period from 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019 and how many were carried out?

**Whanganui District Health Board responds as follows:**

**I am seeking the following information under the Official Information Act which relates to colonoscopies for the time period from 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019.**

**1. Breakdown in terms of numbers for each type of GP referral that were declined and accepted?**

**1A. Non urgent referrals**

Accepted 545 Declined 18

**1B. Urgent referrals**

Accepted 107 Declined 0

**2. Breakdown in terms of numbers for each type of specialist referral that were declined and accepted?**

**2A. Non urgent referrals**

Accepted 842 Declined 19

**2B. Urgent referrals**

Accepted 109 Declined 0

**2C. Emergency department referrals**

Accepted 22 Declined 1

**3. Once the following referral has been accepted how long before seeing a specialist?**

**3A. Non urgent referrals**

Average days wait time 76 days

**3B. Urgent referrals**

Average days wait time 12 days

**3C. Emergency department referrals**

Average days wait time 53 days

**4. How long from the patient first presenting to receiving a colonoscopy and if cancer detected at what stage?**

**4A. Non urgent referrals**

Wanganui DHB's reporting system for colonoscopy did not capture the above requested data information. With the rollout of the national bowel screening programme in 2019, this data is now collected.

**4B. Urgent referrals**

Wanganui DHB's reporting system for colonoscopy did not capture the above requested data information. With the rollout of the national bowel screening programme in 2019, this data is now collected.

**Cancer detection timeframe**

Data not available

**4C. Emergency department referrals**

Nil

**4D. Specialist referral**

Nil

**4E. GP referral**

Average days wait time 91 days

**If cancer detected, at what stage?**

Information not available

- 5. How many colonoscopies was your DHB funded for the time period from 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019 and how many were carried out?**

**How many colonoscopies was your DHB funded for**

For 2018/19 Whanganui DHB was contracted to deliver 1212 colonoscopies

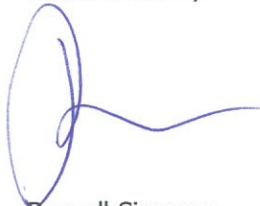
*(Reporting services / non-CWD Reporting)*

**Volume of colonoscopies undertaken for the period 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019**

Urgent colonoscopies	181
Non-urgent colonoscopies	652

Should you have any further queries about the above information, please contact our OIA co-ordinator Deanne Holden at [deanne.holden@wdhb.org.nz](mailto:deanne.holden@wdhb.org.nz)

Yours sincerely



Russell Simpson  
**Chief Executive**