

2 December 2021



Thinking Kiwis

**Via email:** ThinkingKiwis@protonmail.com

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Tēnā koe TK

**Official Information Act Request – OIA 13895 Total Number of Medical Certificate of Causes of Fetal and Neonatal Death Forms**

On 3 November 2021, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB):

1. Would you please supply the total of 'Medical Certificate of Causes of Fetal and Neonatal Death' forms that have been filled out, per month, since June 2020 to date in your District Health Board area. (Ministry of Health web page reference: <https://bit.ly/3mGo01q> )

Please separate into Fetal Deaths and Neonatal Deaths per month. If permissible please advise the cause of death.

**Whanganui District Health Boards response:**

Please note as we are a small community, with easily identifiable outcomes, we have not included the cause of death for either the stillbirths or neonatal deaths. We have, however, included the gestations for the neonatal deaths, as most of them were severely premature and incompatible with life, even though they demonstrated signs of it.

Numbers collated from the HP4721 forms (which is the source the OIA has requested the information come from). The dates are 1 July 2020 to today 30 November 2021. These are the numbers per year and month:

**2020**

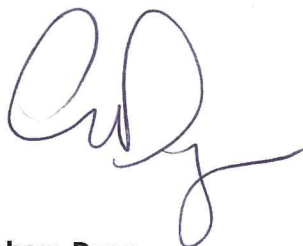
October - 2 neonatal deaths at 19 and 24 weeks + 2 stillbirths  
November - 1 stillbirths  
December - 1 neonatal death at 18 weeks

**2021**

February - 1 stillbirths  
March - 1 stillbirths  
April - 1 neonatal death at 21 weeks  
Aug - 1 neonatal death at 31 weeks  
October - 1 stillbirths  
All other months have no neonatal death or stillbirths.

Should you have any further queries about the above information, please contact our OIA co-ordinator Anne Phoenix at [anne.phoenix@wdhb.org.nz](mailto:anne.phoenix@wdhb.org.nz)

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'GD' with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Graham Dyer**  
Kaihautū Haurora – Acting Chief Executive  
Whanganui District Health Board