

28 July 2022

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Tēnā koe Jacob

Official Information Request- OIA 14412 re Number of People Who Required Dental Hospital Level Care

On 29 June 2022, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB):

How many people have required dental "hospital level care" (as per Dr Lloyd's definition below) each year in the last five years at Whanganui Hospital. I'm trying to see if there is any increase, or statistics that could help tell this story.

Whanganui District Health Boards response:

- 1 How many people have required dental "hospital level care" (as per Dr Lloyd's definition below) each year in the last five years at Whanganui Hospital. I'm trying to see if there is any increase, or statistics that could help tell this story.**

Month	Calendar Year					Grand Total
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
January		27	21	11	13	72
February	3	16	22	8	17	66
March	38	18	11	20	7	95
April	9	17	3	11	12	52
May	13	15	14	14	16	72
June	20	14	13	17	31	95
July	16	13	19	24	20	92
August	29	16	19	9		74
September	28	13	15	9		65
October	23	18	19	13		73
November	22	15	20	9		66
December	17	16	12	18		63
Grand Total	218	198	188	163	116	885

How much dental care ends up being managed by hospital? The hospital dental service is for children and adults requiring hospital level care either due to their medical/physical condition, or due to the complexity of their dental problem. An increasing area of work for hospital dental is prior to heart

and cancer treatments requiring patients to be 'dentally fit'. Historically it also provided care for those with Community Services Card, but now this is very limited, as the service is currently operating at full capacity due to demands from the hospital level patients.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

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

Ngā mihi



Andrew McKinnon

Kaihautū Hauora – Interim Director
Whanganui / Central Region