

14 October 2020

[REDACTED]

## Response to a request for official information

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for official information, as transferred from the Ministry of Health and received 15 September 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)<sup>1</sup>, followed by the necessary extension of time 13 October 2020, where you seek the following information:

***Please note that all my questions relate only to endoscopy procedures:***

- 1. In the last five years how many endoscopy consents were undertaken by nurses and could I please get a breakdown of the procedures these consents related to (e.g, gastroscopy, colonoscopy, ERCP, etc)? I also want to know who conducted the procedure.***

NMH response: The DHB does not undertake nurse led endoscopy consenting.

- 2. In the last five years how many endoscopy consents were done by doctors and could I please get a breakdown of the procedures these consents related to? I also want to know who conducted the procedure.***

NMH response: In the last 5 years NMH performed 10,326 colonoscopies. As the DHB does not undertake nurse led colonoscopy, all colonoscopies would have been consented by doctors.

- 3. For the last five years, can you please state how many high-risk endoscopy procedures (based on what you classify as high-risk procedures) nurses consented patients to?***

NMH response: The DHB does not undertake nurse led consenting.

- 4. In the last five years, how many deaths have been attributed to endoscopy procedures?***

NMH response: The Patient Management System does not capture data for deaths attributed to endoscopy procedures, and it would take a significant amount of time and resources to go through individual patient files. As such, NMH refuses to respond to this part of your request under section 18(f) as *'the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research'*.

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<sup>1</sup> Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

**5. What is best practice in terms of who (i.e. doctors or nurses) should be consenting patients to endoscopy procedures? Should consent be obtained by the clinician conducting the procedure?**

NMH response: At present consent is obtained by the endoscopist performing the procedure. We have been doing work around the process of nurse-lead consent, which works well in some other centres. We will be trialling nurse-lead consent with oversight from the NMH clinical lead and potentially rolling this out across the DHB if successful.

This response has been provided under the Official Information Act 1982. You have the right to seek an investigation by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or free phone 0800 802 602.

If you have any questions about this decision please feel free to email our OIA Coordinator [OIRequest@nmdhb.govt.nz](mailto:OIRequest@nmdhb.govt.nz). I trust that this information meets your requirements. NMH, like other agencies across the state sector, supports the open disclosure of information to assist the public's understanding of how we are delivering publicly-funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released. If you feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Sinclair', written in a cursive style.

Eric Sinclair  
**Acting Chief Executive**