

18 March 2021



Response to a request for official information

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for official information received 14 December 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹ followed by clarification 17 December 2020, the necessary extension of time 28 January 2021 and notice of decision 8 March 2021, where you seek the following information.

- 1. Do you have a privacy officer and at what level of DHB leadership do they sit?**

NMH response: Yes; reports to the Chief Executive.

- 2. Do you have a chief data officer and if so, what is their responsibility in the organisation?**

NMH response: We have a General Manager (GM) Digital, which encompasses the role of a chief data officer. The relevant responsibilities cover management of data and digital technologies.

- 3. How do you gain patient consent for data sharing - ie via a consent form? (please provide a copy of the form or statement that explains how patient data is shared)**

NMH response: We inform patients about their personal information and shared medical records.

HealthOne – Your Health Information posters are displayed in patient areas to inform individuals that their health information is collected and shared between the health providers involved in their care (refer Attachment A). Our website has a page dedicated to patient health information, including privacy rights under the *Health Information Privacy Code 2020* and the *Privacy Act 2020* at this link <https://www.nmdhb.govt.nz/your-health-information/>

Some pieces of legislation govern the disclosure of health information about identifiable individuals, by and between health service providers and other agencies with statutory functions, including the *Oranga Tamariki Act 1989* and *Health Act 1956* (section 22H), and court orders.

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

4. **For what purposes are you sharing patient identifiable health information within the DHB?**
- **Clinical care, Analytics, Quality improvement, Planning, Research**

NMH response: For clinical care only.

5. **Do you share patient identifiable information outside of the DHB and if so, with what other entities? If so, what agreements do you have in place to support this?**

NMH response: Sharing of patient identifiable data is only for people involved directly in patient care.

6. **Do you share any personal data directly with patients? (appointment and discharge letters/ emails to patients should not be included in this definition of 'sharing personal data')**
If yes, what data do you share and via what method? CLARIFICATION: I mean do you share any of the personal health data you hold about a patient with the patients themselves outside of an inpatient/outpatient setting in any form other than appointment and discharge letters? le provide patients access to their medical notes, prescriptions, diagnoses etc?

NMH response: Patients are entitled to request a copy of their medical records under the *Health Information Privacy Code 2020* and the *Privacy Act 2020*.

7. **Do you plan to let consumers access and contribute to their own health information online, via something like a patient portal, in the future? If so: when do you plan to implement and what info will be shared first?**


NMH response: A consumer engagement solution that will allow patients to access their own records is in the preliminary stages.

8. **How does your organisation govern data sharing?**

NMH response: NMH established the role of a data steward.

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 or free phone 0800 802 602. If you have any questions about this decision please feel free to email our OIA Coordinator OIArequest@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



Lexie O'Shea
Chief Executive

ATTACHMENT A: *HealthOne – Your Health Information* poster

HealthOne

Shared knowledge - better, safer care



Your Health Information

Your health information is collected and shared between the healthcare providers looking after you. HealthOne is a secure electronic record that allows those healthcare providers to quickly access information such as your test results, allergies, medications, GP summaries and hospital information.

This helps them to make safer, faster and better informed decisions about your care.

Your Choice

If your GP or Community Pharmacy is part of the HealthOne programme, some of your health information will be available to authorised medical professionals involved in your care. If you don't want your health information shared in this way, you can "opt off" HealthOne at any time.

Simply call freephone 0508 837 872 (0508 TESTSAFE) or email testsafesouth@cdhb.health.nz to confirm you want to opt off altogether, or if it is specific information you don't want shared, ask one of your healthcare providers such as your GP to ensure that information is not shared.

For more information ask for a leaflet at reception,
visit www.HealthOne.org.nz
or phone 0508 837 872 (0508 TESTSAFE).