

26 April 2022

Response to a request for official information

Thank you for your request for official information received 23 February 2022, by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, followed by clarification received 24 February 2022, where you seek the following information.

1. *In the last 5 years how many claims have been made to Work AON from DHB employees for shoulder and neck injuries related to their employment with the DHB? CLARIFICATION: this can be restricted to any organisations that salaries/wages are paid by the NMDH*
2. *How many were accepted and have ongoing financial and or other assistance related to their injury?*
3. *How many people have been declined due to their injury being classed as “pre existing”*

NMH response:

Following consultation with Work AON, please see Table One below which outlines Claims Summary data for work injury claims submitted by NMH employees, by Financial Year (1 July – 30 June) from 1 July 2017 to 11 March 2022.

In reference to Q3 we are able to provide the number of shoulder / neck claims declined however the NMH management system does not electronically capture the level of detail to show the “pre-existing” aspect for particular individuals and, as such, we decline to respond to this part under section 18(g) ‘the information requested is not held’ by us.

TABLE ONE

Claims Summary – Shoulder and Neck Claims	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Claims lodged for Shoulder / neck claims	31	36	33	38	24
Shoulder / neck claims accepted	28	31	30	33	20
Shoulder / neck claims open as at 11.03.2022	<3*	0	0	3	5
Shoulder / neck claims declined	<3*	<3*	<3*	4	<3*
Shoulder/neck claims accepted, later suspended	<3*	3	3	3	0

*Low numbers (<3) are withheld under section 9(2)(a) ‘to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons’. In the circumstances, the withholding of that information is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable, in the public interest, to make that information available.

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

4. How many people could not return to their pre employment due to their injuries or were given different roles due to their injuries?

NMH response:

This information is not held in a form that is readily retrievable from our Information System and, under section 18(f), *'the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation and research'*. It would take a significant amount of time and resources to extract and manually review individual employee files to collate this information.

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 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