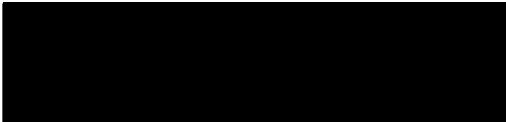




Hospital Services

North Shore Hospital Campus
Shakespeare Road, Takapuna
Private Bag 93-503, Takapuna
Auckland 0740
Telephone: 09 489 0527
Facsimile: 09 486 8339

12 March 2021



Dear 

Re: OIA request – Number of hospital admissions with malnutrition

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 18 February seeking information from Waitematā District Health Board (DHB) about the number of people admitted to hospital with malnutrition.

Before responding to your specific questions, it may be useful to provide some context about our services.

Waitematā is the largest and one of the most rapidly growing DHBs in the country, serving a population of around 650,000 across the North Shore, Waitakere and Rodney areas. We are the largest employer in the district, employing around 8,500 people across more than 80 locations.

In addition to providing care to our own resident population, we are the Northern Region provider of forensic mental health services and child rehabilitation services, plus the metro Auckland provider of child community dental services and community alcohol and drug services.

In response to your request, we can provide the following information:

The number of children and adults admitted to hospital with malnutrition, broken down by age, between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2020.

For the purposes of extracting the information you are seeking, we have used the following ICD (International Classification of Disease) codes which relate to malnutrition:

- E46 Unspecified protein-energy malnutrition
- E44.0 Moderate protein-energy malnutrition
- E44.1 Mild protein-energy malnutrition
- E43 Unspecified severe protein-energy malnutrition
- E41 Nutritional marasmus
- E42 Marasmic kwashiorkor
- O25 Malnutrition in pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium
- T74.8 Malnutrition due to neglect, child

People who are admitted to hospital with malnutrition are referred to our dietitian service.

Our dietitians are part of multidisciplinary teams within Waitematā DHB and work with adults and children, alongside their family/whānau/caregivers, who require nutrition input related to medical and surgical treatments and/or the management of chronic conditions. The dietitians work with patients and their supporters to achieve their goals, offer nutrition education and provide follow-up care as needed.

The information requested is provided in the table below. Where numbers are less than three, we have provided the figure as "<3" to prevent individual cases being identified. This information is withheld under Section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 to protect privacy.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review of this decision by the Ombudsman. Information about how to seek a review is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0800 802 602.

The number of children and adults admitted to hospital with malnutrition, broken down by age, between 2015 to 2020

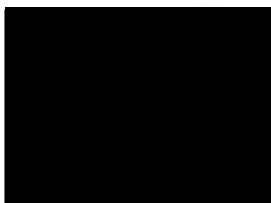
Age Group	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
≤5 years		<3	<3		<3	<3
6 - 15	<3		<3	4	<3	<3
16 - 20	2	4	7	20	9	22
21 - 30	6	9	20	22	13	26
31 - 40	10	10	3	12	11	21
41 - 50	8	16	15	22	21	43
51 - 60	28	40	36	65	57	87
61 - 70	44	50	85	96	85	140
71 - 80	77	61	115	129	128	228
81 - 90	86	95	145	208	181	235
>90 years	21	35	45	82	68	64

I trust that the information we have been able to provide is helpful.

Waitematā DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community 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 consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider your views.

Yours sincerely



**Executive Director Hospital Services
Waitematā District Health Board**