

01 October 2020

Dear 

**Re: OIA request – Colonoscopies at Waitakere Hospital in April 2016**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 20 September 2020 seeking information about the occurrence of cancerous tumours missed from colonoscopies at Waitakere Hospital in April 2016 from Waitemata District Health Board (DHB).

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

Waitemata DHB serves a population of more than 630,000 across the North Shore, Waitakere and Rodney areas, the largest and one of the most rapidly growing DHBs in the country. We are the largest employer in the district, employing around 8,500 people across more than 80 locations.

In addition to providing services to our own population, we are also the metropolitan Auckland provider of forensic psychiatry, child disability services, child community dental services and community alcohol and drug services.

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

**In the history of colonoscopies at Waitakere Hospital, have there ever been cancerous tumours missed from this procedure? Or more specifically, on the date 26 April 2016 to make this question easier to answer (that's if colonoscopies were performed on this date too)?**

We can find no evidence of cancerous tumours missed from colonoscopies performed at Waitakere Hospital on 26 April 2016.

Waitemata 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



**Mark Shepherd**  
Director Provider Healthcare Services  
Waitemata District Health Board