



17 August 2020

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: OIA request - Gender dysphoria

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 24 July 2020, seeking the following from Waitematā District Health Board:

1. *How many under-18- year-olds have a diagnosis of gender dysphoria? How many of these youth are female? How many of these youth are male? [Feel free to express this as a ratio or percentage]*
2. *How many youth under-18 in your DHB have a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and have been prescribed puberty blockers within the past 12 months? How many of these youth were biologically female? How many of these youth were biologically male?*
3. *How many under 18-year-olds were referred by their primary health provider to endocrinology with a diagnosis of gender dysphoria the past 12 months? How many of these youth were female [transitioning away from female]? How many of these youth were male [transitioning away from male]?*
4. *How many youth under-18 in your DHB had a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and were prescribed either testosterone, or oestrogen and progesterone, between 1 January 2018 and the end of December 2018? How many of these youth were female [transitioning away from female]? How many of these youth were male [transitioning away from male]?*
5. *How many youth under-18 in your DHB had a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and were prescribed either testosterone, or oestrogen and progesterone, between 1 January 2019 and the end of December 2019? How many of these youth were female [transitioning away from female]? How many of these youth were male [transitioning away from male]?*
6. *Over the past 12 months, how many females under-24 with gender dysphoria has your DHB provided - hysterectomies - oophorectomies and/or - double mastectomies for? How does this compare to the previous 12 months?*

If you are unable to access retrospective data in regards to anything above, please provide current information.

1. *Approximately how many females have presented to emergency room(s) within your DHB and declared themselves victims of domestic violence by males between 1 January 2019 and the end of December 2019?*
2. *Approximately how many females have presented to emergency room(s) within your DHB and declared themselves victims of domestic violence by males between 1 January 2020 and July 1 2020?*

The DHB's responses are listed below following each question. We have endeavoured to answer these questions as fully as possible using the information available to us. Where we have provided information in response to your request from the Mental Health DHB reporting system, we have used the diagnosis category of "gender identity disorder" as the relevant coding manual does not include a diagnostic category of gender dysphoria.

1. How many under 18-year-olds have a diagnosis of gender dysphoria? How many of these youth are female? How many of these youth are male? [Feel free to express this as a ratio or percentage].

Waitematā DHB established a new service arrangement for the provision of specialist and support services for young people with gender identity issues with the Centre for Youth Health (CfYH) at Counties Manukau DHB in January 2017. Most young people within Waitematā DHB who have required support services relating to gender identity will use the CfYH service.

However, a very small number have used Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) at Waitematā DHB.

Nine people - seven male and two female – under-18 years accessed the Waitematā CAMHS services during the period between 1 January 2018 and 30 June 2020.

We have used readily available collated data from six-monthly reports prepared by CfYH. The following table shows how many Waitematā DHB-domiciled young people have accessed services at CfYH between January 2017 and June 2020:

1 January 2017 – 30 June 2020	Waitematā DHB-domiciled
Male	365
Female	154
Gender exploring/ non-binary	49
Total aged under-18 years	484
Total aged over 18 years	84
Total active cases at CfYH	568

2. How many youth under-18 in your DHB have a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and have been prescribed puberty blockers within the past 12 months? How many of these youth were biologically female? How many of these youth were biologically male?

Data on individual treatment (including those on 'blockers') is not coded and, therefore, is not available in our current reports. To answer this question would require substantial collation and research as it requires the review of individual clinical records.

We have considered whether extending the timeframe or charging for the time involved would assist us in providing a response but have decided that it would not as the work required to collate this information from clinical records would need to be done by a health professional who would ordinarily be providing frontline youth services. This is a very small service and there is a national shortage of clinicians who work in this field, which means they would not be able to backfill the front line position so that the information could be collated. This would compromise the service's ability to provide services to patients. Therefore, we are refusing this element of your request under section 18 (f) of the Official Information Act 1982.

3. How many under-18-year-olds were referred by their primary health provider to endocrinology with a diagnosis of gender dysphoria the past 12 months? How many of these youth were female [transitioning away from female]? How many of these youth were male [transitioning away from male]?

The Waitematā DHB endocrinology service does not provide services to people under 18 years-of-age with gender identity issues and, therefore, does not accept referrals from primary health care for these services. Therefore, we are refusing this element of your request under section 18(g) of the Official Information Act 1982 as the information requested is not held by Waitematā DHB.

4. How many youth under-18 in your DHB had a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and were prescribed either testosterone, or oestrogen and progesterone, between 1 January 2018 and the end of December 2018? How many of these youth were female [transitioning away from female]? How many of these youth were male [transitioning away from male]?

As above, data on individual treatment is not coded and, therefore, is not available in our current reports. To answer this question would require substantial collation and research as it requires the review of individual clinical records. Therefore, we are refusing this element of your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act 1982.

5. How many youth under-18 in your DHB had a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and were prescribed either testosterone, or oestrogen and progesterone, between 1 January 2019 and the end of December 2019? How many of these youth were female [transitioning away from female]? How many of these youth were male [transitioning away from male]?

As above, data on individual treatment is not coded and, therefore, not available in our current reports. To answer this question would require substantial collation and research as it requires reviewing individual clinical records. Therefore, we are refusing this element of your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act 1982.

6. Over the past 12 months, how many females under-24 with gender dysphoria has your DHB provided - hysterectomies - oophorectomies and/or - double mastectomies for? How does this compare to the previous 12 months?

We have used readily available collated data which does not differentiate age. Therefore, this information covers all patients over 18 years-of-age by calendar year 2018 and 2019.

Not all procedures are coded to identify gender dysphoria; therefore, these figures are only as accurate as the coding permits. The information provided is for Waitematā DHB-domiciled patients, with surgery provided by Counties Manukau Health’s plastic surgery service:

	Double Mastectomies	Hysterectomies and Oophorectomies
2018	3	0
2019	11	0

7. Approximately how many females have presented to emergency room(s) within your DHB and declared themselves victims of domestic violence by males between 1 January 2019 and the end of December 2019?

Between 1 January 2019 and 31 December 2019, there was a combined total of 212 disclosures or presentations at Waitematā DHB emergency departments of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) against a female aged 16 years or over as follows:

- North Shore Hospital Emergency Department: 121
- Waitakere Hospital Emergency Department: 91

8. Approximately how many females have presented to emergency room(s) within your DHB and declared themselves victims of domestic violence by males between 1 January 2020 and July 1 2020?

Between 1 January 2020 and 1 July 2020, there was a combined total of 75 disclosures or presentations at Waitematā DHB emergency departments of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) against a female aged 16 years or over as follows:

- North Shore Hospital Emergency Department: 38
- Waitakere Hospital Emergency Department: 37

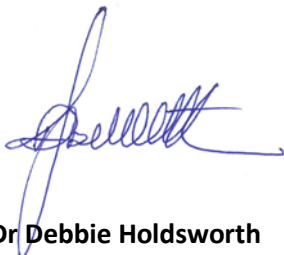
While we are unable to provide information in response to all elements of your request, we trust this information is helpful.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of the decisions taken in providing this response. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

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 feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Yours sincerely



Dr Debbie Holdsworth
Director Funding
Waitematā District Health Board