



12 September 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Official Information Act Request – gender identity

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 20 August 2019 seeking the following of Waitematā District Health Board:

Kia ora, I would like to find out the answers to these questions (where possible) under the Official Information Act Request. The Waitematā DHB may use the diagnosis 'gender identity disorder' instead of 'gender dysphoria' - please use whichever term (or both) best allows you to answer my questions. Thank you:

1. How many people 18 years and under who live within Waitematā DHB have a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and accessed services at CfYH and CAMHS between 1 January 2018 and the end of December 2018? Of those, how many were biologically female and how many were biologically male?
2. How many people 18 years and under who live within Waitematā DHB have a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and accessed services at CfYH and CAMHS between 1 January 2019 and the end of June 2019? Of those, how many were biologically female and how many were biologically male?
3. What is the current comorbidity rate of gender dysphoria and another mental health diagnosis in CAMHS at your DHB?
4. How many youth under 18 in your DHB have a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and have been prescribed puberty blockers (goserelin or leuprorelin) from 1 January 2018 to the end of December 2018? How many of these youth were biologically female, how many were biologically 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 from 1 January 2018 to 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]?
6. How many females have presented to emergency room(s) within your DHB and presented with or disclosed intimate partner violence by males from 1 January 2018 to the end of December 2018?
7. How many females presented to emergency room(s) within your DHB and presented with or disclosed intimate partner violence by males from 1 January 2016 to the end of December 2016?

Our responses are listed below following each question and we have endeavoured to answer these questions as fully as possible using the information available to us.

1. How many people 18 years and under who live within Waitematā DHB have a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and accessed services at CfYH and CAMHS between 1 January 2018 and the end of December 2018? Of those, how many were biologically female and how many were biologically male?

We have used readily available collated data from six-monthly reports prepared by the Centre for Youth Health. The following table shows how many young people under 18 years have accessed services at CfYH between January 2018 and December 2018

	Waitematā DHB
Total active cases at CfYH	175
• Male	112
• Female	46
• Gender exploring/ non-binary	17
Total aged under 18 years (at December 2018)	156
Total aged over 18 years (at December 2018)	19

Most young people within Waitematā DHB who have required support services relating to gender identity use the CfYH service, although a very small number of young people have used services by CAMHS services at Waitematā DHB. Two people, under 18 years accessed the Waitematā CAMHS services during the period between 1 January 2018 and the end of December 2018. We have not provided the gender of these two people because doing so is likely to make the individual patients identifiable. This information is withheld under s9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982. You are entitled to complain to the Ombudsman about our decision to withhold this information. The Ombudsman’s contact details can be found at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

2. How many people 18 years and under who live within Waitematā DHB have a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and accessed services at CfYH and CAMHS between 1 January 2019 and the end of June 2019? Of those, how many were biologically female and how many were biologically male?

As above, we have used readily available collated data from six-monthly reports prepared by the Centre for Youth Health. The following table shows how many young people under 18 years have accessed services at CfYH between January 2019 and June 2019

	Waitematā DHB
Total active cases at CfYH	75
• Male	50
• Female	20
• Gender exploring/ non-binary	5
Total aged under 18 years (at 30 June 2019)	62
Total aged over 18 years (at 30 June 2019)	13

Fewer than five females under 18 years accessed the Waitematā CAMHS services during the period between 1 January 2019 and the end of June 2019. We have not provided the exact number of females under 18 years because the low numbers mean revealing the exact number is likely to lead to the patients being identified. This information is withheld under s9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982.

3. What is the current comorbidity rate of gender dysphoria and another mental health diagnosis in CAMHS at your DHB?

Based on information available to Waitematā DHB at August 2019, the CAMHS service reports that there are no young people with a diagnosis of gender identity disorder with another mental health diagnosis under the Waitematā CAMHS service.

4. How many youth under 18 in your DHB have a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and have been prescribed puberty blockers (goserelin or leuprorelin) from 1 January 2018 to the end of December 2018? How many of these youth were biologically female, how many 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 reviewing individual clinical records. Therefore, we are refusing your request under s18 (f) of the Official Information Act 1982. If you are dissatisfied with this decision, you are entitled to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman, whose details are available via www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

We note that we have considered whether we could provide the information if we extended the time for responding to your request or charged to provide the information but have decided that this would not assist as the work required to collate this information from the clinical record 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 the information could be collated. This would compromise the service's ability to provide services to patients.

5. How many youth under 18 in your DHB had a diagnosis of gender dysphoria and were prescribed either testosterone, or oestrogen and progesterone from 1 January 2018 to 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 reviewing individual clinical records. Therefore, we are refusing your request under s18 (f) of the Official Information Act 1982. If you are dissatisfied with this decision, you are entitled to make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman, whose details are available via www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

6. How many females have presented to emergency room(s) within your DHB and presented with or disclosed intimate partner violence by males from 1 January 2018 to the end of December 2018?

Between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2018:

- North Shore Hospital Emergency Department: 124 – combined volumes of disclosures and presentations of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) against a female aged 16 years or over.
- Waitakere Hospital Emergency Department: 120 - combined volumes of disclosures and presentations of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) against a female aged 16 years or over.

This is a total of 244 disclosures or presentations at Waitematā DHB Emergency Departments.

7. How many females presented to emergency room(s) within your DHB and presented with or disclosed intimate partner violence by males from 1 January 2016 to the end of December 2016?

Between 1 January 2016 and 31 December 2016:

- North Shore Hospital Emergency Department: 93 - combined volumes of disclosures and presentations of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) against a female aged 16 years or over.
- Waitakere Hospital Emergency Department: 105 - combined volumes of disclosures and presentations of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) against a female aged 16 years or over.

This is a total of 198 disclosures or presentations at Waitematā DHB Emergency Departments.


Whilst acknowledging we are unable to provide information in response to all elements of your request because this information is not available, I hope this information is sufficient in response to your request.

Waitematā DHB, 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 this.

Yours sincerely



Dr Debbie Holdsworth
Director Funding
Waitematā District Health Board