



8 May 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: Official Information (OIA) request - Gender - affirming healthcare provided by Waitematā District Health Board**

Thank you for your request for information of 16 April 2019 regarding services and treatments available for transgender patients. 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.

**I am writing to request information about the gender-affirming healthcare services provided by the Waitematā District Health Board.**

- 1. Could you please advise how many transgender people received each of the following services, specifically for gender-affirming healthcare purposes, within the 2018 calendar year?**
  - Puberty blockers
  - Hormone therapy
  - Mastectomy
  - Hysterectomy
  - Orchidectomy
  - Facial hair removal
  - Breast augmentation
  - Voice training
  - Facial feminization surgery

Waitematā DHB provides funding for gender-affirming health care to the Centre for Youth Health (CfYH) at Counties Manukau DHB and the Auckland Regional Sexual Health Service (ARSHS) at Auckland DHB. Both of these services provide non-surgical health services for transgender people for the youth and adult Waitematā DHB population. This includes hormone therapy, nursing, medical, clinical psychology and counselling. Where appropriate, a client will be referred to a mental health professional for any underlying mental health issue. This may be to either primary mental health services or secondary mental health services dependant on the need identified.

Waitematā DHB is unable to provide definitive numbers of patients receiving hormone therapy or puberty blockers as this information is not electronically available. However, the number of people residing in Waitematā DHB seen for an initial assessment by ARSHS and the CfYH area in the 2018 calendar year is provided in Table 1.

**Table 1: Initial Assessments WDHB Population 2018 Calendar Year**

Service	Youth	Adult	Total
Centre for Youth Health	31	NA	31
Auckland Regional Sexual Health Service	NA	116	116
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>147</b>

Please see the below link for details of the services provided:

<https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/public/paediatrics/kidz-first-centre-for-youth-health/>

<https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/public/sexual-health/northern-region-transgender-health-services/>

Waitematā DHB does not provide funding for the following gender-affirming services:

- Facial hair removal
- Breast augmentation
- Voice training

A small number of general surgical procedures including mastectomy, hysterectomy and orchidectomy have been provided in the 2018 calendar year as part of the general elective services for the Waitematā population. Waitematā DHB does not allocate transgender-specific funding for surgical interventions for the Waitematā transgender population.

Table 2 details the data on surgical procedures provided in 2018. This may not be a complete data set as there is no specific differentiation in the national data sets for transgender-specific surgery events.

**Table 2: 2018 WDHB Transgender Surgical Procedures**

Orchidectomy	1
Mastectomy	3
Hysterectomy	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

I trust that this information meets your requirements. 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**