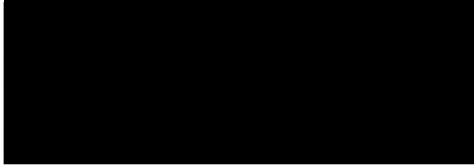




2 November 2018



Dear [REDACTED]

Re: OIA request – Video gaming addiction

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 29 October 2018 seeking the following of Waitemata District Health Board (DHB):

- *Data on how many people have sought help for video gaming addiction / gaming disorder (as defined by the World Health Organisation) during the last five years broken down by year, patients' age, how many were accepted for treatment and how many declined/referred to other providers and average wait time for treatment of those who were accepted.*
- *Information about best practice/guidelines for treatment of video gaming addiction / gaming disorder (as defined by the World Health Organisation).*

In response, I can advise that video gaming addiction is not within the service specification of the Community Alcohol and Drug Service (CADS), which is operated by Waitemata DHB and offers services to patients from across metro Auckland. CADS' services are confined to alcohol and drug addiction. As such, we do not hold any data on this topic.

Waitemata 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susanna'.

Dr Susanna Galea-Singer
Director, Specialist Mental Health and Addictions Services
Waitemata District Health Board