



Waitematā
District Health Board
Best Care for Everyone

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21 May 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: OIA request – Surgical mask use of patients transferred

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 15 May seeking information from Waitematā District Health Board (DHB) about the use of surgical masks by patients with COVID 19 who were transferred to Waitakere Hospital.

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

Waitematā 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 7,500 people across more than 80 different 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 are able to provide the following information:

Did the patients with COVID 19 who were transferred [from St Margaret’s Hospital to Waitakere Hospital] wear surgical masks as recommended by World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines? I did not see this in the report.

Yes, the St Margaret’s residents who were transferred to Waitakere Hospital on 17 April wore surgical masks.

I trust that this information is helpful.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TB', with a small dot at the end.

Tamzin Brott
COVID-19 Executive Lead
Waitematā District Health Board