

22nd July 2021

s9(2)(a)

Dear s9(2)(a)

Official Information Act Request for – Colonoscopy Data

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 25th June 2021 by way of partial transfer from the Ministry of Health (Ref: H202106292), you requested the following information:

- **With respect, can Ministry of Health release colonoscopy decline data for the last five years? If possible, it would be good to have this data presented monthly, and as up to date as possible. This data should be presented by DHB area, with raw numbers as well as percentages, please.**

Counties Manukau Health Response:

For context Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) employs over 8,500 staff and provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 601,490 people). We see over 118,000 people in our Emergency Department each year, and over 2,000 visitors come through Middlemore Hospital daily.

Our services are delivered via hospital, outpatient, ambulatory and community-based models of care. We provide regional and supra-regional specialist services i.e. for orthopaedics, plastics, burns and spinal services. There are also several specialist services provided including tertiary surgical services, medical services, mental health and addiction services.

- **With respect, can Ministry of Health release colonoscopy decline data for the last five years? If possible, it would be good to have this data presented monthly, and as up to date as possible. This data should be presented by DHB area, with raw numbers as well as percentages, please.**

The tables below reflect the number of colonoscopy referrals received and the number declined per month by raw number and percentage.

Declined referrals can be for a range of reasons however some reasons are as follows, the patient does not meet the service criteria, patient ineligibility, duplicate referrals, patient transferred to another speciality or it is an out of domicile referral.

Gastroenterology eReferrals Received for Colonoscopy						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Jan	-	219	210	242	241	241
Feb	-	207	258	251	293	227
Mar	-	290	300	300	240	305
Apr	-	205	254	250	90	312
May	-	267	311	362	237	345
Jun	-	262	323	311	326	339
Jul	264	260	317	365	326	-
Aug	258	308	317	342	263	-
Sep	268	246	304	284	328	-
Oct	235	293	285	338	335	-
Nov	269	251	272	300	310	-
Dec	218	234	233	240	293	-
Total	1512	3042	3384	3585	3282	1769

Table 1 Data Sourced: Health Intelligence & Informatics 05/07/2021

Gastroenterology eReferrals Declined for Colonoscopy						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Jan	-	19	6	4	15	15
Feb	-	21	14	9	18	30
Mar	-	26	16	13	13	14
Apr	-	11	9	6	6	15
May	-	13	15	16	12	24
Jun	-	15	15	12	24	23
Jul	27	16	13	17	24	-
Aug	11	20	18	12	15	-
Sep	29	14	15	10	20	-
Oct	21	12	15	16	33	-
Nov	27	26	15	13	14	-
Dec	16	12	10	14	16	-
Total	131	205	161	142	210	121

Table 2 Data Sourced: Health Intelligence & Informatics 05/07/2021

Gastroenterology Percentage of eReferrals Declined for Colonoscopy						
Submission Date	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Jan	-	8.7%	2.9%	1.7%	6.2%	6.2%
Feb	-	10.1%	5.4%	3.6%	6.1%	13.2%
Mar	-	9.0%	5.3%	4.3%	5.4%	4.6%
Apr	-	5.4%	3.5%	2.4%	6.7%	4.8%
May	-	4.9%	4.8%	4.4%	5.1%	7.0%
Jun	-	5.7%	4.6%	3.9%	7.4%	6.8%
Jul	10.2%	6.2%	4.1%	4.7%	7.4%	-
Aug	4.3%	6.5%	5.7%	3.5%	5.7%	-
Sep	10.8%	5.7%	4.9%	3.5%	6.1%	-
Oct	8.9%	4.1%	5.3%	4.7%	9.9%	-
Nov	10.0%	10.4%	5.5%	4.3%	4.5%	-
Dec	7.3%	5.1%	4.3%	5.8%	5.5%	-
Total	8.7%	6.7%	4.8%	4.0%	6.4%	6.8%

Table 3 Data Sourced: Health Intelligence & Informatics 05/07/2021

I trust this information answers your request. You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau Health website. If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Fepulea'i Margie Apa', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health