



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

Corporate Office
High Street, Greymouth 7840

Telephone 03 769-7400
Fax 03 769-7791

5 October 2018

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RE Official information request WCDHB 9210

We refer to your email dated 7 September 2018 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB.

- 1. Between April 1 and August 31 this year, how many patients were referred to Greymouth Hospital for radiology examinations and how many of those were referred back to their GPs because the procedure fell outside publicly funded radiology?**

Radiology performed 9570 exams from referrals for this period in 2018; of these 3607 were GP referrals. Total referred back to their GP during this period in 2018 was 172.

- 2. How many of those patients referred for radiology examinations were from Buller and how many of them were referred back to their GPs?**

There were 1139 referrals received from Buller in 2018, of these 60 were referred back to their GP.

- 3. What were the comparative figures for the same period last year?**

There were 1075 GP referrals received from Buller in 2017, of these 65 were referred back to their GP.

- 4. Please explain any difference in the figures.**

Although referral rates to Radiology increased by around 5% in the last financial year, the number of referrals back to GPs has decreased as GPs have become more familiar with using the guidance provided in HealthPathways.

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the West Coast DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

Carolyn Gullery
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support