



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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3 December 2018

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RE Official information request WCDHB 9240

We refer to your email dated 16 October 2018 to Ministry of Health requesting information under the Official Information Act. The Ministry of Health subsequently transferred the following questions to the West Coast DHB on 5 November 2018. Specifically, questions 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8:

- 3. *Please provide in total the number of surgeons who were undertaking surgical mesh procedures in NZ for stress urinary procedures using surgical mesh, prior to the 8th October 2018 and before the letter sent out by Dr Bloomfield to all DHB's.***

There were two resident Consultant Specialists who were employed by West Coast DHB as at 8 October 2018 who have previously undertaken stress urinary procedures prior to 8 October 2018. This includes Tension-free Vaginal Tape procedures. In the last financial year, such procedures have only been carried out at our DHB facilities by visiting Specialists only.

- 5. *Please provide the total amount of surgeons who will be able to continue to undertake removal/revision surgical mesh procedures in NZ after the 8th October 2018.***

None of the resident Consultant Specialists employed by West Coast DHB as at 8 October 2018 have previously undertaken any mesh removal or revision procedures in New Zealand prior to 8 October 2018, and none have expressed an interest in undertaking such procedures in the future.

- 6. *Please provide the total amount of surgeons whom were undertaking removal/revision of surgical mesh in NZ prior to 8th October 2018.***

As above, there are no resident Consultant Specialists who were employed by West Coast DHB as at 8 October 2018 who were undertaking removal or revision of surgical mesh procedures prior to 8 October 2018.

- 7. *Please provide a total list of surgeons, by name, who will be able to implant surgical mesh for stress urinary incontinence procedures after the 8th October 2018.***

None of the resident Consultant Specialists employed by West Coast DHB as at 8 October 2018 are undertaking implantation of surgical mesh procedures after 8 October 2018. Any such future cases that might potentially be undertaken in our facilities would only be done by visiting Consultant Specialists who hold the necessary credentialing to undertake such procedures.

- 8. Please provide a list of surgeons, by name, who will be able to remove surgical mesh for stress urinary incontinence procedures. (major removal 2nd or subsequent adjustment as set out in credentialing expectations).**

As above, there are no resident Consultant Specialists employed by West Coast DHB that will be undertaking any mesh removal or revision procedures for stress urinary incontinence. None have expressed an interest in undertaking credentialing for performing such procedures in the future.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gullery', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Carolyn Gullery
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support