



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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2 April 2019

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RE Official information request WCDHB 9280

I refer to your email received 18 February 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB. Specifically:

I would like a copy of any and all information totalling:

- **The number of patients prescribed antidepressants in 2018 by West Coast DHB. Please include the age and gender of the patient(s).**

Clarified on 19/2/2019 as: including those in the community.

This request as it relates to the number of patients dispensed prescription anti-depressants by community pharmacies in 2018 is being answered by TAS on behalf of all District Health Boards.

In relation to inpatients prescribed and administered anti-depressants in West Coast DHB secondary care facilities, this occurs using paper patient medication charts, and the information requested is not retrievable without substantial collation. We are therefore declining your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act.

If you disagree with our decision to withhold information you may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek an investigation and review of our decision from the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz; or Freephone 0800 802 602.

I trust 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