



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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23 September 2019

9(2)(a)

RE Official Information Act request WCDHB 9329

I refer to your email dated 25 July 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB.

- 1. Any information the DHB holds about vaccination/immunization rates for its health workers, including the various rates for midwives, nurses and doctors working for the DHB.**
- 2. Any information the DHB holds about trends in vaccination rates for health workers over the previous decade, and whether any measures have been taken to increase uptake.**
- 3. Any information the DHB holds about vaccination rates for its health workers specifically from Pertussis/Whooping cough, seasonal 'flu and MMR.**

We can only provide information going back to 2013, however, we are seeing an increase in the volume of vaccinations we are providing our people over the past five years. These include vaccinations for: Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, MMR, Pertussis and Varicella.

Please refer to **Appendix 1 Table one** (attached) which shows the number of vaccinations given by either our own Occupational Health team, or by other West Coast DHB Authorised Vaccinators for the five key vaccinations mentioned above:

We are unable to provide information regarding vaccinations rates for specific groups of health workers, with the exception of Influenza.

Our Influenza campaign is measured separately, as we target all our people for this vaccination and aim for 80% of our workforce to be vaccinated.

Influenza immunisation rates for West Coast DHB employees are publically available on the Ministry of Health website:

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/preventative-health-wellness/immunisation/influenza>

2019 influenza vaccination rates for West Coast DHB employees have not yet been released by the Ministry, however, as at August 2019, 73% of West Coast DHB's workforce have been immunised against this year's influenza. This figure is expected to increase as DHB employees are still able to access this vaccination through our Occupational Health programme.

In addition, we believe these rates may even be higher as some staff may have been immunised by their GP and this is not reflected in these numbers.

Please refer to **Appendix 1 Tables two and three** (attached) for West Coast DHB influenza vaccination rates by workforce and influenza vaccination rates by year 2015-2019 (August).

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

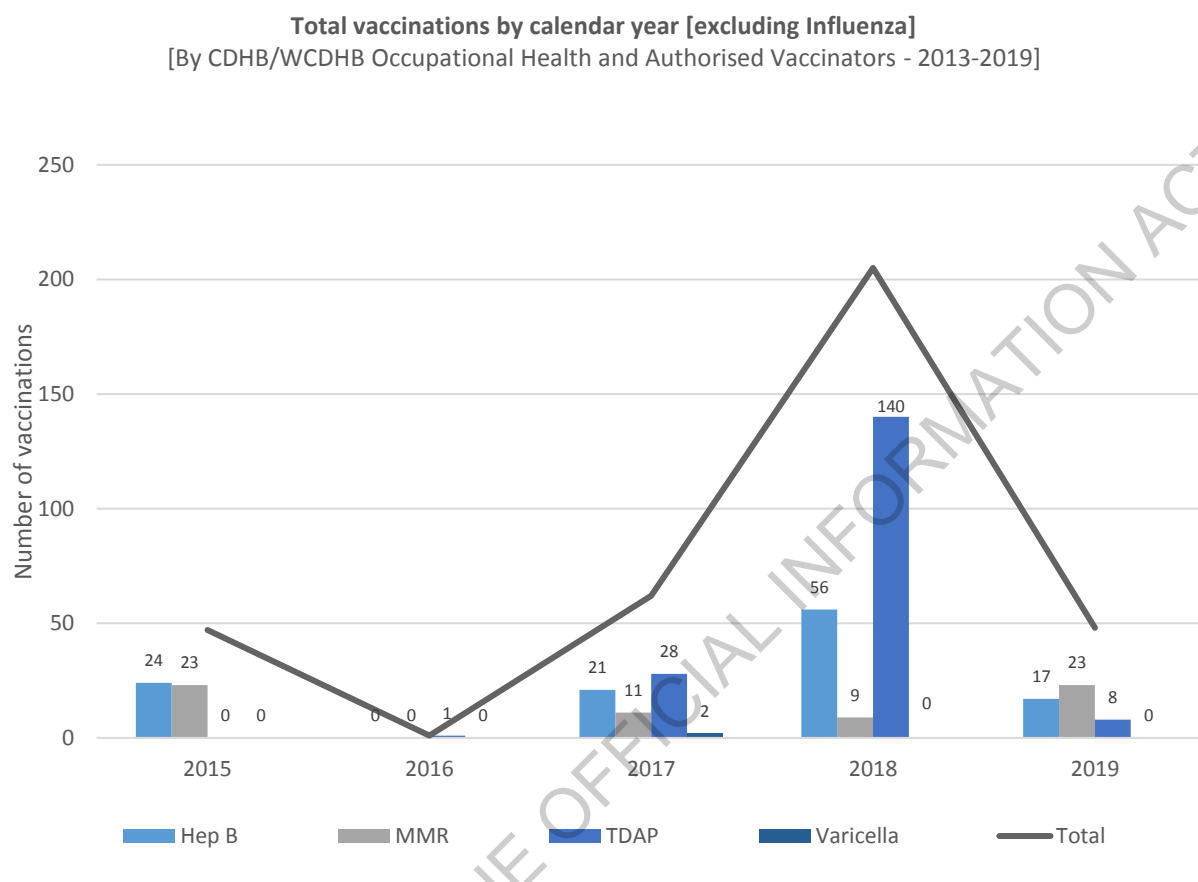
Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the West Coast DHB website after your receipt of this response.

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

Table one: Number of vaccinations given for Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, MMR, Pertussis and Varicella 2013 – 2019.



Please note Vaccination levels for pertussis and MMR can be seen above. Pertussis vaccination [Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis – TDAP] is offered five-yearly, hence the reason for the spike in 2018.

Table two: West Coast DHB influenza vaccination rates by workforce 2015 – 2019 (as at August).

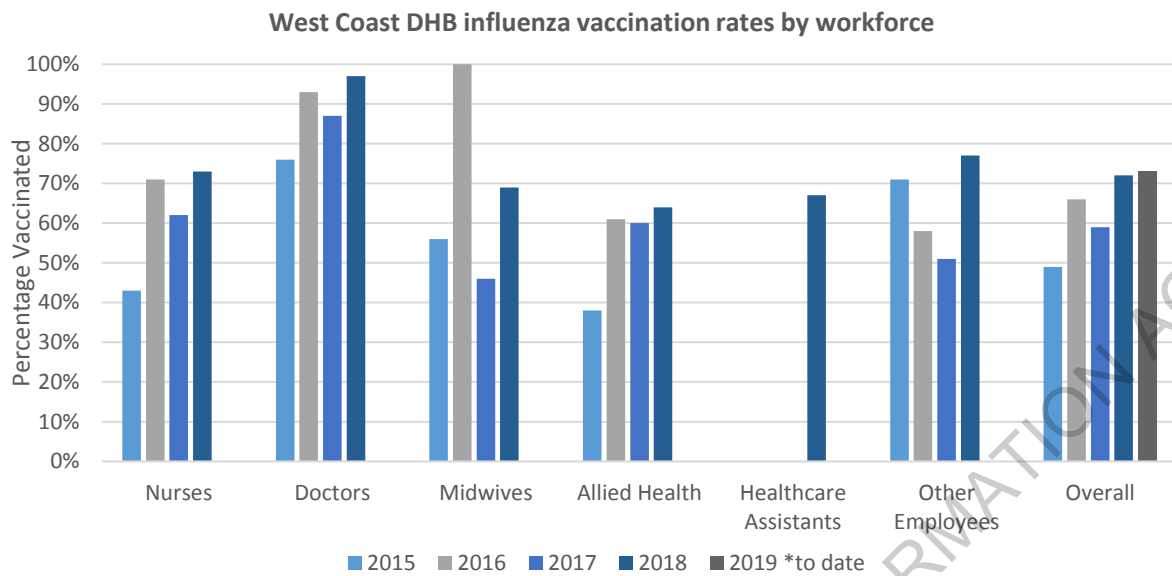


Table three: West Coast DHB influenza rates by year

