



# *West Coast District Health Board*

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## *Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini*

Corporate Office  
High Street, Greymouth 7840

Telephone 03 769-7400  
Fax 03 769-7791

16 October 2019

9(2)(a)

### **RE Official Information Act request WCDHB 9348**

I refer to your email dated 19 September 2019 requesting information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB regarding fiberoptic colonoscopies to Hepatic Flexure or to Caecum provided since 2010/2011. Specifically:

#### **1. Number of fiberoptic colonoscopies to Hepatic Flexure or to Caecum provided in each of the financial years from 2010/11 to current date?**

Colonoscopies provided by the West Coast DHB are all undertaken in our main operating theatres at Grey Base Hospital. All are undertaken on an inpatient basis; primarily as day cases. The number of fiberoptic colonoscopies\* to hepatic flexure or to caecum provided at Grey Base Hospital in each of the financial years from 2010/11 is as follows:

- 2010/11 - 365
- 2011/12 - 490
- 2012/13 - 415
- 2013/14 - 477
- 2014/15 - 560
- 2015/16 - 486
- 2016/17 - 513
- 2017/18 - 521
- 2018/19 - 579

\*Note: A patient can be discharged having had multiple colonoscopy procedure codes, therefore the data above reflects the number of unique discharges with at least one of these colonoscopy procedures.

#### **2. Number of fiberoptic colonoscopies to Hepatic Flexure or to Caecum provided as elective outpatient procedures in each of the financial years from 2010/11 to current date?**

Nil.

**3. Number of fiberoptic colonoscopies to Hepatic Flexure or to Caecum provided as inpatient procedures in each of the financial years from 2010/11 to current date?**

Colonoscopies are provided by the West Coast DHB in our main operating theatres at Grey Base Hospital. All are undertaken on an inpatient basis; primarily as day cases. The answer for this question is the same as provided in answer to question 1 above.

**4. Number of fiberoptic colonoscopies to Hepatic Flexure or to Caecum provided by any contracted private provider, in each of the financial years from 2010/11 to current date?**

Nil.

**5. Total Number of fiberoptic colonoscopies to Hepatic Flexure or to Caecum provided at each of your hospitals in each of the financial years from 2010/11 to current date?**

Colonoscopies are provided by the West Coast DHB in our main operating theatres at Grey Base Hospital. All are undertaken on an inpatient basis; primarily as day cases. The answer for this question is the same as provided in answer to questions 1 and 3 above.

**6. Current fte surgical and medical staff undertaking colonoscopy work both privately and publically?**

Colonoscopies are provided by our resident general surgeons as part of their wider employment and clinical roles. All are engaged in a public capacity; none work in any private capacity for the DHB nor privately on their own account. The number of colonoscopies they may undertake in a year is dynamic, being purely driven from the number of patients who may present on their public surgical waiting lists in need of a colonoscopy, along with all other general surgery acute and waiting list patient demand. Theatre staff and anaesthetists are similarly engaged across the wider range of surgical services that are provided by the West Coast DHB in our main operating theatres at Grey Base Hospital. As such, there is no specific surgical, theatre, or ward nursing FTE assigned, nor able to be calculated, in respect of colonoscopy surgery alone. The one exception to this is an Endoscopy Coordinator engaged at Grey Base Hospital, who divides her role between coordinating endoscopy services and nursing on the day ward. This nurse is employed at 1.0 FTE overall.

**7. Are publically fte medical and surgical staff paid to undertake colonoscopies in the DHB in a private capacity, if so how many colonoscopies have been performed in publically setting with private capacity for payment vs full public colonoscopies for each of your hospitals and list the years?**

To date, the West Coast DHB has never employed nor contracted any staff to undertake colonoscopies in a private capacity in any setting (public or private).

**8. Have any fte medical and surgical staff undertaking colonoscopies reduced their fte to undertake private practice from 2010 until the current date. If so provide an annual breakdown since 2010 until the current date?**

Nil.

- 9. Have any one off payments been made to the Gastroenterology clinical director from 2010 until the current date. If so provide a breakdown of how much paid in each financial year since 2010/11 until the current date?**
- 10. What is the salary for the Gastroenterology clinical director?**
- 11. Total salary and non-salary components for the Gastroenterology clinical director for each year from 2010 until the current date.**

The West Coast DHB does not employ a Gastroenterology Clinical Director.

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**