



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

Corporate Office
High Street, Greymouth

Telephone 03 768 0499
Fax 03 768 2791

30 April 2020

9(2)(a)

Official Information Request WCDHB 9402

I refer to your email dated 27 February 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB.

1. The number of sexual harassment reports made by person(s) employed (staff) by the DHB in the calendar years of 2019, 2018 and 2017, broken down by whether they involved either patients or other staff.

Table one:

Event type	2017	2018	2019	Total
Sexual Harassment – patient harassed staff	1	0	0	1
Sexual Harassment – patient harassed patient	0	1	2	3

2. The number of sexual harassment reports made by patients to the DHB in the calendar years of 2019, 2018 and 2017, broken down by involving either other patients or staff.

Table two:

Event type	2017	2018	2019
Sexual Harassment – reported by patients	0	0	0

3. The number of complaints made to the DHB by staff members for each of the following:
 - a) Physical assault/abuse
 - b) Verbal assault/abuse
 - c) Psychological assault/abuse
 - d) Racial assault/abuse;

Made to the DHB in the calendar years of 2019, 2018 and 2017, broken down by whether they were perpetrated by either patients or staff.

(Table three overleaf) shows events reported in our incident system, recording patients perpetuating the above types of abuse.

Table three:

Perpetuated by Patients	2017	2018	2019	Total
Patient on patient: Physical Assault	47	58	11	116
Patient on Staff: Physical Assault	21	32	9	62
Patient on Staff: Assault – Verbal	1	0	0	1
Patient on patient: Verbal Assaulted Verbally	18	17	0	35
Patient on staff: Racial assault / abuse	1	1	1	3
Patient on Patient: Racial assault / abuse	0	0	0	0
Patient on Staff: Psychological Assault / abuse	28	27	8	63
Patient on Patient: Psychological assault	13	23	7	43

Please note: that psychological assault / abuse above includes threatening behaviour, harassment and bullying grouped together

No reports were received for the periods indicated for staff perpetuating the above types of abuse on patients.

4. The number of complaints made to the DHB by patients for each of the following:

- a) Physical assault/abuse**
- b) Verbal assault/abuse**
- c) Psychological assault/abuse**
- d) Racial assault/abuse;**

Made to the DHB in the calendar years of 2019, 2018 and 2017, broken down by whether they were perpetrated by either patients or staff.

We have no record of complaints in our system for the above types of abuse made by patients.

Our staff are encouraged to report **all** incidents. An incident is any unplanned or unexpected event resulting in, or having the potential for harm, ill health, damage, loss or disruption to service delivery. Each event is reviewed so that patients and staff are supported, and secondarily for continuous quality improvement.

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