



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

4 September 2020

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RE Official information request WCDHB 9463

I refer to your email dated 22 July 2020 to the Ministry of Health which they subsequently transferred to us on 18 August 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB regarding Cerebral Palsy and Pain Management. Specifically:

- 1. What pain management services are available to children with Cerebral Palsy?**
- 2. What pain management services are available to adults with Cerebral Palsy?**
- 3. How are these services accessed?**
- 4. Are these services available to all New Zealanders or only in some parts of the country?**

West Coast DHB does not have a specific distinct pain management service.

Pain management for children and adults in our region, including those with Cerebral Palsy, is instead generally guided and supported through a range of local clinical fields, including primary general practice as well as DHB services such as care by a range of paediatric, medical and surgical Consultant Specialists, allied health services (such as physiotherapy and occupational therapy), and District and Rural Nursing services in the community.

Depending upon the specific nature and severity of individual cases, child and adult patients from our region with Cerebral Palsy who may require advanced specialised input into pain management are referred to tertiary level services provided by the Canterbury DHB in Christchurch.

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

Ralph La Salle
Acting Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support