



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

Corporate Office
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23 March 2021

9(2)(a)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RE Official information request WCDHB 9527

I refer to your email dated 18 February 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB. Specifically:

1. The number of children and adults admitted to hospital with malnutrition, broken down by age, between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2020.

In the five-year period from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2020, there were fewer than five individuals who, between them, had six admissions to our general hospital health services with a primary diagnosis of malnutrition as being the principle reason for their admission. These patients were aged between 56 and 85 years old.

In addition, there were 299 cases where malnutrition was coded as complications or comorbidities of other primary reasons for patient admission to hospital. These 299 admissions, by age cohort, during the period 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2020 were as follows:

- Age under 1 = <5 admission
- Age 1 – 15 = nil
- Age 16 - 25 = 5 admissions
- Age 26 - 35 = 7 admissions
- Age 36 - 45 = 13 admissions
- Age 46 - 55 = 19 admissions
- Age 56 - 65 = 52 admissions
- Age 66 - 75 = 74 admissions
- Age 76 - 85 = 78 admissions
- Age 86 - 95 = 50 admissions
- Age 96+ = nil

Note: We have aggregated the information into age bands and are declining to provide information where the numbers are <5 pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act i.e. “...to protect the privacy of natural persons, including those deceased”.

I trust this satisfies your interest in this matter.

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

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 blue ink, appearing to read "R La Salle". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

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