



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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25 November 2021

9(2)(a)

RE Official information request WCDHB 9623

I refer to your email dated 20 October 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB regarding mental health services. Specifically:

- 1. How many people are currently waiting for mental health treatment after they have been through an initial triage process? What is the average wait time to access services?**

The average wait time to access services is less than 3 weeks.

What is the longest time someone can wait?

On average people are seen within 3 weeks

Please provide breakdown by inpatient/outpatient services.

There is no wait time for an Inpatient service.

Please refer to **Table one** (below) for wait time for Outpatient services.

Table one:

Outpatient Wait time by Quarter days	Q2 2021/22
Northern Community Mental Health	5
Child Adolescence Mental Health [CAMHS]	11
Central Community Mental Health	8
RATA Alcohol & Other Drug West Coast	16
Southern Community Mental Health	10

- 2. How many people are currently waiting for addiction treatment after they have been through an initial triage process? What is the average wait time to access services? What is the longest time someone can wait? Please provide breakdown by inpatient/outpatient services.**

Please refer to our response to Question 1.

3. What is the process while patients wait to access addiction and/or mental health treatment?

Referrals are triaged by clinical staff within two working days of referrals being received. Referral source is notified of outcome within three working days. All accepted referrals are placed on waitlist and allocated to a clinician to establish contact within three weeks dependant on acuity.

4. How many beds there are in the Manaakitanga mental health unit, and in the Kahurangi dementia unit (just mental health beds for older people)?

There are nine beds acute inpatient mental health services in Manaakitanga inpatient care unit. There are no mental health beds available in Kahurangi unit.

5. How many patients died after they were triaged but before receiving addiction or mental health treatment in the last six years? Are you able to provide the cause of death for each person who died?

Given the relatively small number of cases involved for the West Coast DHB each year, release of specific detailed information could well lead, and in some cases easily lead, to the identification of individual patients concerned. We therefore decline to provide this information under Section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act i.e. "...to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons."

6. Also, I would really appreciate it if you were able to tell me how many mental health inpatients, and how many mental health outpatients WCDHB had in 2020. And how many addiction outpatients WCDHB had in 2020.

There were 171 acute mental health inpatient and adult mental health crisis respite admission events to our Manaakitanga inpatient mental health unit in the course of the 2020 calendar year.

Please refer to **Table two** (below):

Table two

Outpatient Referral by Event by NHI	Jan –March 20	April –June 20	July –Sept 20	October – Dec 20
Northern Community Mental Health	130	122	137	139
Child Adolescence Mental Health [CAMHS]	125	120	155	145
Central Community Mental Health	321	276	275	308
RATA Alcohol & Other (AOD) Drug West Coast	263	262	285	279
Southern Community Mental Health	134	137	147	140

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



Tracey Maisey
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support