



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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18 November 2021

9(2)(a)



RE Official Information Act request WCDHB 9629

I refer to your email dated 8 November 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB regarding ADHD. Specifically:

- 1. Do you diagnose ADHD for those under the age of 18, and for those over 18? If so, what is the process to getting a diagnosis, and who does the diagnosis? If not, please explain why not.**

Yes, the West Coast DHB diagnoses ADHD for those under the age of 18 and for those over 18 years of age.

Under age 18 referrals are received from the school and must be accompanied by evidence that indicates a possibility of ADHD, including educational reports. The CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service) multidisciplinary team complete a comprehensive assessment which includes psychology. The CAMHS Psychiatrist makes the diagnosis based on their, and the teams combined assessments.

Over age 18 patient with previous diagnosis must provide evidence of previous diagnosis, childhood history including school reports, development history, and clean urine drug screen with no current substance misuse.

Over age 18 with no previous diagnosis must provide school reports, any previous psychology reports available, development history, and clean urine drug screen with no current substance misuse.

- 2. What is the waiting list/average time frame to be diagnosed over the last 12 months? (for under and over 18)**

The waitlist to be assessed is less than three weeks, however the diagnosis process could take up to two months to complete.

- 3. What support do you provide once they are diagnosed?**

Treatment for co-morbid conditions include prescribing of medication to assist with symptom management and case management includes psycho-education for the youth and their family.

**4. Do you have the ability to cope with an ADHD person in crisis?
What care is provided?**

Yes, we have the ability to cope with an ADHD person in crisis.

The Crisis Response team is available 24/7 for any person presenting in crisis that would require Mental Health assessment, risk mitigation or support. This could include respite options and additional support for families.

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 be 'Tracey Maisey', with a stylized, flowing script.

Tracey Maisey
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support