



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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1 February 2022

9(2)(a)

RE Official Information Act request WCDHB 9646

I refer to your email dated 24 November 2021 to the Ministry of Health which they subsequently transferred to us on 16 December 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB regarding opportunistic vaccinations and PHO enrolment. Specifically:

- 1. A list of all district health board emergency departments that have a policy to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to unvaccinated people (COVID-19) who attend the emergency department.**
- 2. A list of all district health board emergency departments, paediatric departments or wards that have a policy to provide childhood immunisations to all unvaccinated children who attend the department or ward.**
- 3. What plan each district health board has to connect people or children not currently enrolled in primary care who attend the emergency department or other departments - in primary care (registered with a PHO) - currently only 84% of Māori are enrolled in primary care (PHO).**

Response

West Coast DHB does not have any policies or plans of a nature related to the three queries of your enquiry.

West Coast DHB does not differentiate between vaccinated and unvaccinated people of any age in providing healthcare – access remains open to both. Any people requiring urgent care are able and encouraged to seek attention regardless of vaccination status. As a DHB, we strongly advocate for people to get vaccinated to help reduce associated risk and to minimise the need to be hospitalised for treatment as a result of Covid-19.

All general practices on the West Coast are members of the West Coast PHO. People that present at our hospital facilities who are not enrolled with a general practice are asked if they wish to consider enrolment, and the benefits of enrolment are explained.

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 dark ink, appearing to be 'RLS', with a long, sweeping horizontal line underneath it.

Ralph La Salle
Senior Manager, OIAs
Planning, Funding & Decision Support