

CORPORATE OFFICE

Level 1
32 Oxford Terrace
Christchurch Central
CHRISTCHURCH 8011

Telephone: 0064 3 364 4134
Kathleen.smitheram@cdhb.health.nz

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RE Official information request CDHB 10790 and WCDHB 9651

We refer to your email dated 11 December 2021 to the Department of Internal Affairs which they subsequently transferred to us on 23 December 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB and West Coast DHB. Specifically:

1. **How many recorded assaults on health staff have there been in 2021?**
2. **How many recorded incidents of verbal abuse or threats have there been on health staff in 2021?**
3. **How many days have been lost due to staff taking time off after being assaulted in the same time frame?**

The wellbeing and safety of our patients and people is extremely important to us and staff work extremely hard to maintain a safe environment across our services. We encourage our people to record all incidents involving violence and aggression.

The data below is supplied from our incident management system, Safety 1st and from our ACC records. We have provided the data recorded as Health and Safety incidents involving staff as reported through our Employee and Contractor and Patient Behaviour and Safety forms.

Due to the way that event types are recorded in our Incident reporting system we have provided the available data as follows:

Table 1: How many recorded assaults on health staff have there been in 2021?

CDHB	2021
Assault	477
WCDHB	2021
Assault	20

Table 2: How many recorded incidents of verbal abuse or threats have there been on health staff in 2021?

CDHB	2021
Assault	414
WCDHB	2021
Assault	15

Table 3: How many days have been lost due to staff taking time off after being assaulted in the same time frame?

CDHB ACC Claims Lost time	2021
Physical assault	33

We have limited ACC data for the West Coast, as the WCDHB is not in the ACC Accredited Employers Programme. We are unable to calculate the number of days lost per claim.

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 Canterbury DHB and West Coast DHB websites.

Yours sincerely



Tracey Maisey
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support