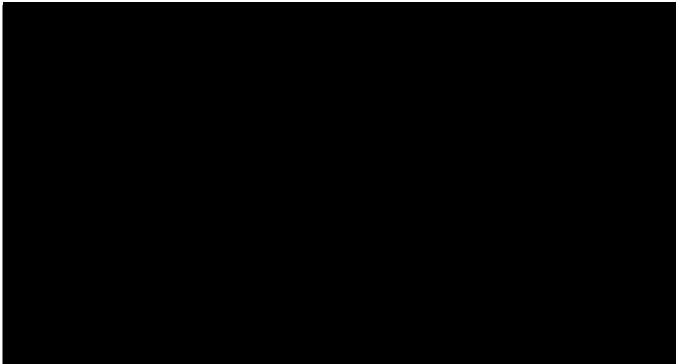


17 July 2019



Re Official Information Request – Temporary Blindness

I refer to your official information request dated 19 June 2019 requesting the following information:

I request the following information under the Official Information Act (OIA) 1982;

- 1. The total number of girls aged 11 or 12 who presented to hospital with temporary blindness in the last five years, categorised by age and year;**
- 2. The total number of girls aged 11 or 12 who were diagnosed with chronic fatigue syndrome in the last five years, categorised by age and year;**
- 3. Any report, briefing document, investigation, notes, email or other document held by the DHB related to the above. This includes, but is not limited to, any document that elaborates on their condition or any wider investigation or inquiry looking into their condition.**
- 4. Any other information that falls within the spirit of this request, which is not specifically mentioned above.**

We have interpreted your last two points as referring to documents about girls aged 11 or 12 with postviral fatigue syndrome as their primary diagnosis.

- 1. The total number of girls aged 11 or 12 who presented to hospital with temporary blindness in the last five years, categorised by age and year;**

This information is not available without substantial collation and research, accordingly your request is declined pursuant to s18(f) Official Information Act

- 2. The total number of girls aged 11 or 12 who were diagnosed with chronic fatigue syndrome in the last five years, categorised by age and year;**

Five girls aged 11 or 12 are recorded in the national information system with postviral fatigue syndrome as their primary diagnosis in the last five years. The small number in our opinion

would mean that providing any further information would potentially lead to their being identified and thus any further information is withheld under s9(2)(a) OIA – to protect their privacy.

3. **Any report, briefing document, investigation, notes, email or other document held by the DHB related to the above. This includes, but is not limited to, any document that elaborates on their condition or any wider investigation or inquiry looking into their condition.**
4. **Any other information that falls within the spirit of this request, which is not specifically mentioned above.**

The only information held about these girls are individual patient files, which are withheld in full under section 9(2)(a) OIA.

I trust this information answers your questions.

You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. 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 Auckland DHB website.

Yours faithfully



Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive