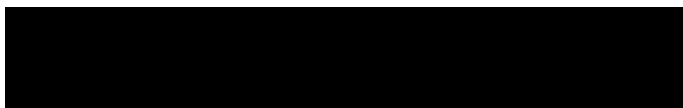


28 March 2019



Dear Helena

Re Official Information Request – Violent incidents in hospitals

I refer to your official information request of 21 February 2019 due on 21 March and subsequently extended to 28 March 2019 for the following information:

Please provide any statistics or data about the number and nature of violent incidents in hospitals within your DHB within the last five years. If possible, please provide a breakdown by:

- ***annual number of incidents***
- ***type or nature of incident***
- ***the type of service they occur in (e.g. emergency departments, mental health units, other wards).***
- ***who was the victim (patient, staff, visitor, etc) and who perpetrated the violence.***
- ***when did the incident happen, and at what point in the hospital experience (eg , 2pm, Sunday 4 Feb 2017, at the time of admission).***
- ***where the patient was the perpetrator of a violent incident, how many incidents are reported within 48 hours of that patient being placed in seclusion or restraint***
- ***were there any other factors or circumstances that may have contributed to the incident?***

The information is provided below:

Note that the information provided is recorded on a Datix Safety Management System introduced in 2017. Data prior for 2016 and 2015 cannot be made available without substantial collation or research and is declined under section 18(f).

Please provide any statistics or data about the number and nature of violent incidents in hospitals within your DHB within the last five years.

If possible, please provide a breakdown by:

1. annual number of incidents

<i>Annual number of incidents</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>
	<i>360</i>	<i>557</i>	<i>85</i>

2. Type or nature of incident

All incidents where health service staff threatened

	2017	2018	2019
Patient to Staff: Verbal	87	97	23
Patient to Staff: Physical threat (no contact)	46	49	5
Patient to Staff: Physical Contact	216	376	41
Patient to Staff: Sexual Assault	0	1	4
Visitor/whanau to staff: Verbal	10	34	10
Visitor/whanau to staff: Physical Contact	1	0	2

Patient behaviour incidents and behaviour towards a patient

	2017	2018	2019
Inappropriate/Aggressive Behaviour by a Patient towards another person	453	709	133
Inappropriate/Aggressive Behaviour towards a Patient by a Visitor/Other	12	24	9
Inappropriate/Aggressive Behaviour towards a Patient by Staff	22	28	7

3. the type of service they occur in (e.g. emergency departments, mental health units, other wards).

All incidents by directorate where health service staff threatened

	2017	2018	2019
Adult Community & LTC	45	60	10
Adult Medical Services	41	93	26
Cancer & Blood Services	5	13	0
Cardiovascular Services	7	12	2
Child Health	12	53	10
Clinical Support	6	10	1
Commercial Services	2	1	0
Mental Health & Addictions	214	230	21
Patient Management Services	3	16	0
Perioperative Services	1	2	2
Public Health	2	1	0
Support Services	2	5	1
Surgical Services	16	53	12
Women's Health	4	7	0

4. who was the victim (patient, staff, visitor, etc) and who perpetrated the violence.

See response to question No.2

Mental health staff threatened and verbally abused

	2017	2018	2019
Mental Health & Addictions	195	204	16

5. when did the incident happen, and at what point in the hospital experience (eg, 2pm, Sunday 4 Feb 2017, at the time of admission).

This request is refused on the grounds of section 18(f) in that the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

6. where the patient was the perpetrator of a violent incident, how many incidents are reported within 48 hours of that patient being placed in seclusion or restraint

This request is refused under section 18(e) as the document containing the information requested does not exist or cannot be found

7. were there any other factors or circumstances that may have contributed to the incident?

This request is refused under section 18(e) in that the documents containing the information requested does not exist or cannot be found.

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