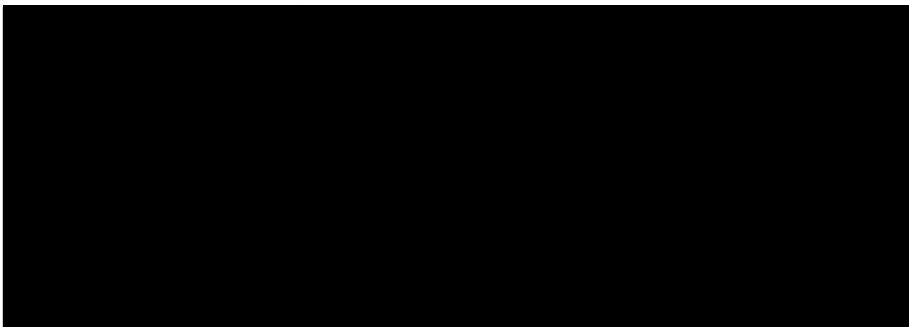


17 July 2019



**Re Official Information Request – Clinical Coding contracts and patient confidentiality**

I refer to your official information request dated 10 July 2019 requesting the following information:

**1. Has Clinical coding work been contracted out of Auckland DHB?**

Yes

**2. IF YES - Was there a tender process for awarding contracts? Is there any undeclared conflict of interest between any Clinical Coding department team member and the successful company/companies?**

There was no tender process. There is no conflict of interest between any clinical coding department team member and any of the contract coding companies.

**3. Are the contract coder/coders and company/companies based in New Zealand or overseas? If overseas, from which countries have the ADHB patient records been accessed?**

The companies we use are in Australia and New Zealand.

**4. How does ADHB monitor and protect the privacy & confidentiality of patient records, information and data when accessed by clinical coders from outside New Zealand?**

Non-disclosure and confidentiality clauses in the contracts with the companies as well as individuals signing the ADHB Confidentiality Agreement Form. Secure connection to ADHB networks and systems during the coding process.

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](http://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