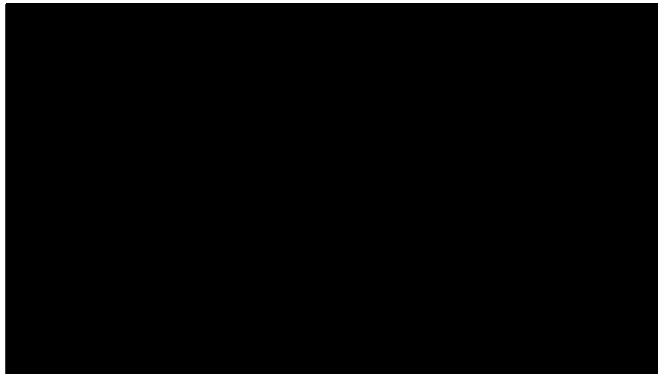


27 August 2018



Re Official Information Act Request – Access to services for people with Multiple Sclerosis (Part 2 of 3) Waiting times – Our reference: 20180727-142

I refer to your official information request dated 24 July 2018, which we received on 27 July 2018, for information about services experienced in our DHB by people with Multiple Sclerosis.

In Part 2 of your request you asked for the following information about waiting times:

Waiting Times

1. What is the current waiting time for a/an:
 - a) First specialist neurology outpatients' appointment?
 - b) Follow up specialist neurology outpatient appointment?
 - c) Outpatient MRI?
 - d) Outpatient infusion clinic appointment?
 - e) Outpatient Psychotherapy appointment?
 - f) Outpatient Physiotherapy appointment?
 - g) Outpatient Occupational Therapy appointment

Auckland DHB does not separate waiting times or appointments by disease for its clinics. Patients are triaged based on individual need rather than by specific disease. To research and define waiting time and appointments made for individuals with Multiple Sclerosis would require substantial research and time.

"I have decided to decline your request under Section 18 (f) of the Official Information Act in that the information cannot be made available without substantive collation or research.

"You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under Section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Yours faithfully



Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive