

6 October 2020

Nicholas Jones  
NZME

**Via email:** [nicholas.jones@nzme.co.nz](mailto:nicholas.jones@nzme.co.nz)



100 Heads Road, Private Bag 3003  
Whanganui 4540, New Zealand

Dear Nicholas

**Official Information Act Request – OIA 13111 re Hospital Demand 1 Sept 19 to 31 Aug 20**

On 7 September 2020, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB):

For the period September 1 2019 to August 31 2020, a weekly breakdown of the following information:

- # ED presentations
- # Overall hospital capacity
- # The overall number of referrals received for first specialist assessments for planned care, and the number of FSA that took place

The information sought in this request is to be used as part of a report by the New Zealand Herald, and is sought in order to give readers a demonstration of how Covid-19 and the associated restrictions impacted demand on our major hospitals/DHBs.

If there is an easier measurement that is more readily available (i.e for the FSA part of the request) then I am happy to receive that, rather than create unnecessary compilation work.

**Whanganui District Health Boards response:**

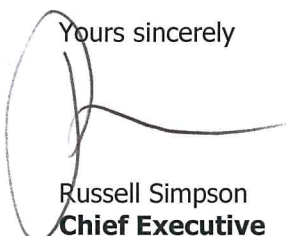
**For the period September 1 2019 to August 31 2020, a weekly breakdown of the following information:**

- **number of ED presentations**
- **overall hospital capacity**
- **the overall number of referrals received for first specialist assessments for planned care, and the number of FSA that took place**

**For weekly breakdown of information requested, please see table on page 2.**

Should you have any further queries about the above information, please contact our OIA co-ordinator Anne Phoenix at [anne.phoenix@wdhb.org.nz](mailto:anne.phoenix@wdhb.org.nz)

Yours sincerely



Russell Simpson  
**Chief Executive**

Chief Executive | Phone 06 348 3140 | Fax 06 345 9390



	ED PRESENTATIONS	Hospital Occupancy (midnight census) <i>Note:</i> excludes baby wards, day stay surgical ward	Outpatient - Planned care (Surgical)	
WEEK ENDING	Weekly total	% Occupancy	FSA Referrals	FSA Appointments
8/09/2019	489	94%	176	134
15/09/2019	467	92%	167	115
22/09/2019	454	84%	160	87
29/09/2019	457	82%	180	121
6/10/2019	420	80%	118	97
13/10/2019	434	75%	167	125
20/10/2019	463	81%	149	77
27/10/2019	427	74%	145	101
3/11/2019	416	95%	127	67
10/11/2019	424	89%	162	102
17/11/2019	394	89%	134	122
24/11/2019	400	88%	174	96
1/12/2019	419	81%	146	102
8/12/2019	434	76%	145	128
15/12/2019	377	71%	143	113
22/12/2019	419	72%	171	93
29/12/2019	446	73%	47	45
5/01/2020	438	78%	68	43
12/01/2020	396	84%	124	122
19/01/2020	426	80%	159	145
26/01/2020	398	71%	114	76
2/02/2020	424	75%	185	101
9/02/2020	441	67%	156	71
16/02/2020	415	76%	224	125
23/02/2020	446	73%	206	114
1/03/2020	455	88%	173	133
8/03/2020	459	89%	209	138
15/03/2020	443	85%	194	118
22/03/2020	425	83%	175	109
29/03/2020	250	58%	93	44
5/04/2020	289	55%	59	16
12/04/2020	271	59%	59	12
19/04/2020	282	70%	70	15
26/04/2020	322	66%	83	27
3/05/2020	334	84%	76	19
10/05/2020	340	74%	114	51
17/05/2020	326	77%	123	58
24/05/2020	339	72%	137	86
31/05/2020	420	81%	164	122
7/06/2020	407	90%	137	90
14/06/2020	346	89%	187	110
21/06/2020	419	88%	251	118
28/06/2020	436	94%	157	126
5/07/2020	370	95%	209	121
12/07/2020	401	92%	214	109
19/07/2020	397	90%	158	108
26/07/2020	409	95%	177	107
2/08/2020	416	87%	262	148
9/08/2020	399	80%	175	158
16/08/2020	431	96%	203	159
23/08/2020	433	87%	204	95
30/08/2020	399	86%	190	143