

6 November 2020

Tony Ellis  
Barrister

**Via email:** [ellist@tonyellis.co.nz](mailto:ellist@tonyellis.co.nz)

Dear Tony

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### **Official Information Act Request – ECT treatment and machines**

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Under section 14 of the Official Information Act, the Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB) received a partial transfer of your request from the Ministry of Health on 12 October 2020. You requested the following information in relation to ECT treatments.

B. Are there different machines in use in different DHBs?

C. How many machines are in use in each DHB? If that too wide a request, then in Waitemata DHB, Canterbury DHB, and Capital and Coast DHB.

E. If most of the machines are of a particular manufacturer, how long have they been in use, I am particularly interested in the age and make of the ECT machines in the Waitemata DHB.

H. Does the Ministry have any statistics of any complaints about ECT that have been made to DHBs, and if so, please provide similar information broken down annually in the period 1 January 2010, to 1 January 2020.

#### **The Whanganui District Health Board response:**

Whanganui DHB does not have any ECT machines. We are not in a position to comment on machines in other DHBs.

#### **B. Are there different machines in use in different DHBs?**

This is best addressed to those DHBs who have machines. MidCentral DHB do have ECT and may be able to respond.

#### **C. How many machines are in use in each DHB? If that too wide a request, then in Waitemata DHB, Canterbury DHB, and Capital and Coast DHB.**

Whanganui DHB do not have any ECT machines.

#### **E. If most of the machines are of a particular manufacturer, how long have they been in use, I am particularly interested in the age and make of the ECT machines in the Waitemata DHB**

Not applicable.



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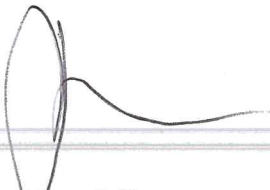
100 Heads Road, Private Bag 3003  
Whanganui 4540, New Zealand

**H. Does the Ministry have any statistics of any complaints about ECT that have been made to DHBs, and if so, please provide similar information broken down annually in the period 1 January 2010, to 1 January 2020.**

We do not have any information regarding complaints and suggest that this question is best addressed to the Ministry of Health. ECT is not performed in this DHB. Any people requiring this service would be referred to MidCentral DHB.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line that tapers to the right.

Russell Simpson  
**Chief Executive**