

8th November 2021

s9(2)(a)

Dear s9(2)(a)

Official Information Act Request for – Puberty Blockers

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us on 7th October 2021 by way of partial transfer from the Ministry of Health (ref: H202111962), you requested the following information:

- Please provide (or where the DHB's hold the figures forward to each of them) the following information as a matter of urgency - they are being used for a submission to the Select Committee on the BDMRR Bill closing 14 September.
- Information relating to the use of blockers for young either trans related or increase in central precocious puberty. Please provide the figures divided into these 2 separate categories.
- Please break down as to
 - numbers,
 - ages,
 - birth sex
 - ethnicity
 - for all people under the age of 20 enrolled in gender clinics - including by DHB over last 5 years.
- Please also advise how many of the above have gone on to be prescribed cross sex hormones and/or gone on to have transition surgery or be placed on the surgery waiting list.

Counties Manukau Health Response:

In response to your request, we contacted you on the 15th October 2021 and again on the 28th October 2021. We had asked if you wanted to amend your request given that information about puberty blockers has previously been requested in an Official Information Act request and that this response is publicly available on our website (<https://www.countiesmanukau.health.nz/about-us/official-information-act-requests/publicly-released-oias/>).

Data on all individual treatment plans for cases under the care of the Centre for Youth Health (including identifying a subset prescribed puberty 'blockers') is not systematically coded. In order for CM Health to provide this information would require a clinician to manually review individual medical files for all active cases. The Centre for Youth Health is continuing to work with our Clinical Analytics Service to improve automation of the coding of data.

At the date of this letter, we have not heard back from you. As we did not receive clarification from you regarding your request, we are unable to provide specific material that relates to this request however we can direct you to the publicly released Official Information Act requests section of our website (link above) where we have previously answered similar questions.

Should you wish to provide us with more specific detail about your interest in this matter, please contact us again and we will consider this request.

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 may be published on the Counties Manukau Health website. If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Fepulea'i Margie Apa', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health