

17th May 2021

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request for – Maaori Cultural Identity – Mental Health

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us on the 21st April 2021 by way of partial transfer from the Ministry of Health (ref: H202103655), you requested the following information:

Mental health (compulsory assessment and treatment) act 1992 information requested:

1. What is the ethnicity of psychiatrists currently working in DHB psychiatric inpatient units and
2. What is the ethnicity of allied clinical staff working in DHB inpatient psychiatric units?
3. What DHB protocols are there for ensuring maori clinical staff care for maori tangata whaiora?

Counties Manukau Health Response:

For context Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) employs over 8,500 staff and provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 601,490 people). We see over 118,000 people in our Emergency Department each year, and over 2,000 visitors come through Middlemore Hospital daily.

Our services are delivered via hospital, outpatient, ambulatory and community-based models of care. We provide regional and supra-regional specialist services i.e. for orthopaedics, plastics, burns and spinal services. There are also several specialist services provided including tertiary surgical services, medical services, mental health and addiction services.

Mental health (compulsory assessment and treatment) act 1992 information requested:

1. What is the ethnicity of psychiatrists currently working in DHB psychiatric inpatient units
Table 1 below reflects ethnicity of Psychiatrists working in DHB psychiatric inpatient units only as you requested. It does not include ethnicity of psychiatrists working in community settings.

	Asian	Maori	Pacific	Other
Ward 35 East Koropiko				
Psychiatrist	-	-	-	100%
Acute Mental Health Unit				
Psychiatrist	20%	-	-	80%

Table 1: Sourced Human Resources 17/05/2021

2. What is the ethnicity of allied clinical staff working in DHB inpatient psychiatric units?

Table 2 below reflects the ethnicity of Allied Clinical Staff working in DHB Psychiatric Units.

	Asian	Maori	Pacific	Other	Unknown
Ward 35 East Koropiko					
Allied Health	-	-	50%	50%	-
Acute Mental Health Unit					
Allied Health	30%	30%	20%	20%	-
Tamaki Oranga					
Allied Health	20%	20%	-	40%	20%

Table 2: Sourced Human Resources 17/05/2021

3. What DHB protocols are there for ensuring maori clinical staff care for maori tangata whaiora?

CMDHB Mental Health & Addictions Services aims to provide a culturally sensitive and responsive practice. Our protocols do not require that Maaori staff care for Maaori tangata whaiora but our clinical guidelines do require that the individual's cultural identity is explored upon admission and their needs and preferences are discussed. In all cases, every attempt is made to assign staff having the gender and ethnicity preferred by the service user.

I trust this information answers your 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



Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health