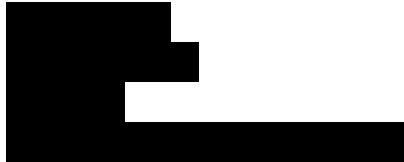


12<sup>th</sup> April 2022



### Official Information Act Request for – Pregnancy & Covid

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, you requested the following information:

1. How many pregnant women with Covid has Middlemore Hospital seen during the Omicron outbreak?
2. How many women have given birth with Covid at Middlemore Hospital?
3. I understand there are three groups of Covid positive patients in the maternity ward: those that test positive at birth, those that are sick with covid and obstetric concern complicated by Covid. How many has Middlemore Hospital seen of each?
4. How many pregnant women with Covid have been in the ICU?
5. Are there any pregnant women currently in ICU at Middlemore Hospital?

### 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, over 490,000 outpatient appointments 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 national, 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.

We have used the following codes, *Coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified to other chapters (symptomatic)* and *Coronavirus infection, unspecified site (un-symptomatic)* to distinguish between patients who test positive but have no symptoms versus patients who are sick with Covid. The figures below are for between 01.01.2022 and 31.03.2022.

1. How many pregnant women with Covid has Middlemore Hospital seen during the Omicron outbreak?  
184 antenatal and postnatal admissions and discharges.

**2. How many women have given birth with Covid at Middlemore Hospital?**

Please refer to the table below.

Coding	Number of Women	Symptoms/ No Symptoms
Coronavirus as the cause of diseases classified to other chapters	47	Had symptoms
Coronavirus infection, unspecified site	49	No symptoms
<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**3. I understand there are three groups of Covid positive patients in the maternity ward: those that test positive at birth, those that are sick with covid and obstetric concern complicated by Covid. How many has Middlemore Hospital seen of each?**

- Those that are sick with Covid – 47 women
- Those that test positive when birthing - 49 women
- Those with obstetric concerns complicated by Covid – This is not data that is routinely collected by CM Health and would involve considerable time to manually search through individual patient files. Due to the sensitivity of this information, frontline clinical staff would need to review individual clinical files and it would not be appropriate to use a contractor to review the records. This would take the frontline staff away from their clinical work and prejudice our ability to provide core clinical services. We have considered whether charging or extending the timeframe for responding to this aspect of your request would assist us in managing this work and have concluded it would not. We have, therefore, determined to decline this element of your request under Section 18(f) of the Official Information Act 1982 due to substantial collation and research.

**4. How many pregnant women with Covid have been in the ICU?**

One woman between 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

**6. Are there any pregnant women currently in ICU at Middlemore Hospital?**

As at 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022, no.

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](http://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



**Dr Peter Watson**  
**Acting Chief Executive Officer**  
**Counties Manukau Health**