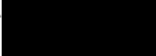


13 March 2019



Dear 

Official information request W19-312

I refer to your official information request dated 20 February 2019.

Request:

I'm just pulling together a national story of DHB data on DHB staff around the country being assaulted, harassed, injured etc from patients. What I'm asking for from the DHB please is:

- Data/numbers/figures of all incidents involving any DHB staffer being harassed, assaulted, hurt, injured, threatened, maimed or implicated in an altercation with any patient from any ward/area under the DHB's jurisdiction over the last three years to date (ie from February 20, 2016, to present day, February 20, 2019).
- Could the DHB please, with the data, provide a breakdown of when each incident occurred (ie date), when it was recorded/reported and by who, a brief description of each incident including details of the assault/threat/injury/harassment, and what the outcome was of each incident ie. whether a patient was sectioned/transferred/arrested or whether the staffer involved had treatment.

Response:

The information you have requested is below.

We have included statistics about the number and nature of violent incidents in Wairarapa DHB within the last three years, as requested.

We are unable to break down the information further than is provided as our systems do not have that capability. It would require someone to go through each incident report and log the data. Therefore we are declining this part of this request under section 18(f) the information cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

Annual number of incidents	2016 x 24 2017 x 33 2018 x 37 2019 (January and February figures only) x 7
Type or nature of incident	Violence (physical assault) Verbal abuse Threatening behaviour

	Physically assaulted other Threat of violence
The type of service they occur in (e.g. Emergency departments, mental health units, other wards).	All inpatient areas can be susceptible to violent incident.
Who was the victim (patient, staff, visitor, etc) and who perpetrated the violence.	Almost exclusively victim was staff member and most predominantly perpetrator is patient followed in second place by a family member

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. 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 response, may be published on the Wairarapa District Health Board website no less than one week after the response has been provided to you. Any personal or identifying information will be redacted from any response published online. The DHB will endeavour to resolve any concerns you should raise but, subject to any legal grounds for withholding, ultimately reserves the right to publish any information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact:

Caroline van Deventer
Communications Administrator
Email: caroline.vanDeventer@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz
Ph: 06 946 9800, ext 5840

Yours sincerely



Adri Isbister
Chief Executive