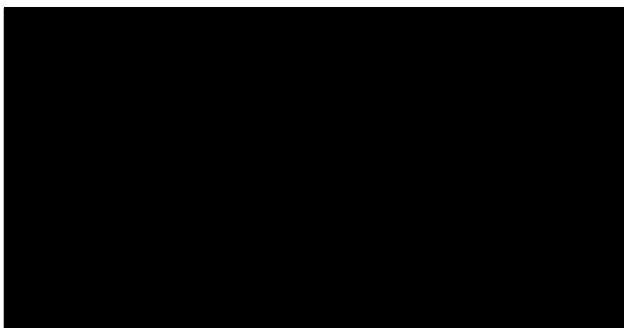


29 September 2020



Re: Official Information Request – Surgical and radiological drains and rehospitalisation rates

I refer to your official information request dated 14 September 2020 requesting the following information:

I am looking for some data on surgical and radiological drains, as well as the frequency of certain surgeries and rehospitalisation rates, I am hoping you can please help me or point me in the right direction.

I am wanting to please know:

1. The frequency of rehospitalisation or extended stay due to surgical drain infection.
 2. The frequency of the following surgeries over the past 3 years =Breast surgery, orthopaedic procedures, chest surgery, pancreatic surgery, biliary surgery, thyroid surgery
 3. Some data on surgical drain/catheter use, how often these are used and on what surgery
1. **Frequency of rehospitalisation:** coding is available when a patient has an inpatient readmission with complications however; data on an extended stay due to surgical drain infection is not available. The numbers below are for patients who had a surgical drain inserted and were then readmitted for complication of prosthetic devices, implants and grafts. The coding does not specify type of device inserted related to the complication.

Year	Readmission with complication
2017	4
2018	8
2019	9

2. **Frequency of surgeries:** based on procedure groups for coded inpatient events except for the last two categories which are identified by speciality.

Year	Breast	Thyroid	Pancreas	Biliary	Cardiothoracic (Chest)	Orthopaedics (including Paed Ortho)
2017	543	160	48	1,257	1,879	4,486
2018	437	176	80	1,279	1,861	4,327
2019	496	175	80	1,388	1,926	4,478

3. **Frequency of surgical drain/catheter use by speciality:** % of theatre events where a drain was inserted based on speciality.

% of operations with drain/catheter			
Theatre speciality	2017	2018	2019
Cardiothoracic	88%	87%	87%
Acute Surgery	17%	14%	14%
General Surgery	20%	19%	18%
Paediatric	4%	5%	5%
Orthopaedics	15%	12%	10%
Urology	17%	16%	16%
Vascular Service	35%	33%	32%
Otorhinolaryngology	16%	16%	14%
Maternity	9%	9%	6%
Neurosurgery	16%	13%	13%
Gynaecological	7%	6%	5%
Other	19%	18%	40%

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 response, may be published on the Auckland DHB website.

Yours faithfully



Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive