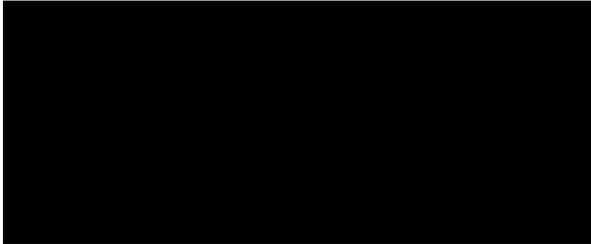


10 September 2021



Re: Official Information Act (OIA) request – Feeding tube machines

I refer to your Official Information Act request received dated 13 August 2021 requesting the following information:

- 1. All internal communications (including text, emails, reports and any other correspondence) about a shortage/ increased demand for feeding tube machines at Auckland District Health Board from January 1, 2021 to date.**

This request is extremely broad as it would need to involve many services, and would also encompass personal patient information. The request is therefore declined under OIA s18(f) – substantial collation, and OIA s9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of individuals.

- 2. The number of complaints this year (from staff and patients) the DHB has received relating to a shortage of feeding tube machines and/or patients being left unfed.**

Four.

- 3. The longest wait time for a feeding tube a patient at Auckland DHB had experienced, each month this year.**

This data is not collected. If we are unable to obtain a feeding pump for a patient promptly, we take other steps to ensure the patient's nutritional and energy needs are met while they are waiting, such as giving them intravenous fluids or using an alternative method of feeding. We have increased our stock by an additional 50 pumps to prevent there being wait times.

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 of Te Toka Tumai (Auckland District Health Board)