

**Northern Region Health**

**Coordination Centre**

**Level 9**

**Bledisloe House**

**24 Wellesley Street West,**

**Auckland CBD, Auckland 1010**

22 November 2021

[REDACTED]

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**Re: Official Information Act request – Covid 19 Hospitalisation Data**

I refer to your Official Information Act request 13 October 2021 seeking the following information:

- 1. What is the total number of Covid cases that required hospital care in your region since the start of the current delta outbreak?**
- 2. How many of those cases have been hospitalised for:**
  - a) Covid-19 related acute health issues as a primary reason?**
  - b) unrelated acute health issues as a primary reason while testing positive for Covid?**
  - c) monitoring purposes only (no acute health issues at time of admission)?**
- 3. What was the average time spent in hospital?**
- 4. How many of those cases required supplemental oxygen at some point during their hospital stay?**

I am responding on behalf of the Northern Region Health Coordination Centre (NRHCC), the COVID-19 response and vaccination team set up by the Northland, Waitematā, Auckland, and Counties Manukau DHBs.

In an effort of timeliness, we have partially responded with data from Auckland and Waitematā District Health Boards which can be found below. Please refer to attached extension letter regarding CMDHB data which requires further consultation.

- 1. What is the total number of Covid cases that required hospital care in your region since the start of the current delta outbreak?**

As at week ending 24/10/2021 there have been 305 patients with 340 hospital events, who had a COVID diagnosis (tested positive either prior to admission and not yet been recovered by ARPHS or tested positive during their visit) and required hospital care.

Data breakdown by DHB:

	Total Number of cases that required hospital care	Hospital events who had a COVID diagnosis*
WDHB	88	94
ADHB	139	149
CMDHB	78	97
<b>Total</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>340</b>

\*Tested positive either prior to admission and not yet been recovered by ARPHs or tested positive during their visit and required hospital care.

**2. How many of those cases have been hospitalised for:**

**a) Covid-19 related acute health issues as a primary reason?**

There have been 194 likely and 127 suspected hospital events - based on the primary clinical care team. Data breakdown by DHB:

	Covid-19 related acute health issues as a primary reason	
	Likely	Suspected Hospital Events
WDHB	88	94
ADHB	106	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>127</b>

**b) Unrelated acute health issues as a primary reason while testing positive for Covid?**

There have been 16 hospital events. Data breakdown by DHB:

	Unrelated acute health issues as a primary reason while testing positive for Covid
WDHB	6
ADHB	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

**c) Monitoring purposes only (no acute health issues at time of admission)?**

This would require manual review of the patient notes relating to the 149 hospital events. Please see our response to question 4.

**3. What was the average time spent in hospital?**

The average time spent in hospital was 4.7 days and 2.5 days for ADHB and WDHB respectively.

**4. How many of those cases required supplemental oxygen at some point during their hospital stay?**

This would require manual review of the patient notes relating to the 243 hospital events. In this case and for Q2 c, each of these individuals' files would need to be examined prior to be

being anonymised before they could be examined to enable the collation of this data, to protect the health information they contain.

Given that DHB clinicians, managers and staff continue to concentrate on measures to manage the current COVID-19 Delta outbreak in the region we are unable to assist you with questions 2 c) and 4.

We have therefore decided to decline these parts of your request under Official Information Act (OIA) (s9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of individuals, and OIA s18(f) - substantial collation and research.

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 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 response, may be published on the Auckland DHB website.

Yours sincerely,



Ailsa Claire, OBE  
**Chief Executive of Te Toka Tumai (Auckland District Health Board)**