

19 August 2022

Via email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

**Official Information Act request – Removal of Essure Devices**  
**Our refs: HNZ00002649 and 20220725-1269**

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 25 July 2022, requesting the following information:

**Since 2010 to July 1, 2022, how many [Essure](#) devices have been removed by the DHB?**

**Since 2010 to July 1, 2022, how many Essure devices have been removed as a result of adverse reactions and/or side effects?**

**Please include a breakdown for the reason for removal if recorded/known.**

**Response**

**Since 2010 to July 1, 2022, how many Essure devices have been removed by the DHB?**

One Essure device was removed over the period 2010 to 1 July 2022.

**Since 2010 to July 1, 2022, how many Essure devices have been removed as a result of adverse reactions and/or side effects?**

None.

**Please include a breakdown for the reason for removal if recorded/known**

We are refusing the information requested citing s(9)(2)(a) Official Information Act – to protect the privacy of natural persons. This information relates to a patient to whom we also have a duty, under the Health Information Privacy Principles, to consider whether or not they may be identifiable if we release this information.

Given there is only one case of an Essure device removal in this period, we consider releasing clinical details as requested risks the identification of the individual and thus breaching their privacy.

We cite the Official Information Act provisions within the Privacy Commissioner's guidance (Health Information Privacy Fact Sheet 3) in refusing this request in that we can see no strong public interest in this information being disclosed.

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 response, may be published on the Te Toka Tumai Auckland website.

Nāku iti noa, nā



**Dr Michael Shepherd**

Interim District Director

Te Toka Tumai Auckland