



Dear Garrick

Re **Official Information Request for admissions related to adverse drug reactions**

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 17 January 2019 and subsequent clarification for the following information:

For each of the 2015/16, 2016/17, and 2017/18 Financial Years:

1. *The total number of admissions to hospital each year.*
2. *The average (both mean and median) bed stay of patients admitted to hospital each year.*
3. *The total number of admissions to hospital in relation to adverse drug reactions each year.*
4. *The total cost of admissions in relation to adverse drug reactions each year.*
5. *The total number of admissions to hospital in relation to adverse drug reactions each year which were preventable.*
6. *The total cost of the preventable admissions.*
7. *The average (both mean and median) bed stay of patients admitted to hospital in relation to adverse drug reactions.*

The information we have released to you is enclosed below:

1. The total number of admissions to hospital each year.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Total_Admissions (TA) *	207468	210728	217418

*TA Total admissions no exclusions

2. The average (both mean and median) bed stay of patients admitted to hospital each year.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
TA_Mean_LOS	1	1	1
TA_Median_LOS	0	0	0

LOS – Length of Stay

3. The total number of admissions to hospital in relation to adverse drug reactions each year.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Adverse_Reactions (AR) **	1956	1954	2011

**AR - Adverse Reactions coded events with a diagnosis between Y40 and Y59

4. The total cost of admissions in relation to adverse drug reactions each year.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
AR_Total_Cost	\$10,653,809.89	\$9,507,504.02	\$8,882,765.48

5. The total number of admissions to hospital in relation to adverse drug reactions each year which were preventable.

Further to your clarification of questions 5 and 6 as "ADRs caused by medication errors, whether they be acts of omission or commission, incorrect medication/dose/timing, administration of a medication to a patient with a known allergy, inadequate monitoring, or other errors" we wish to advise there is no coding for such events and no such occurrences are recorded in an easily retrievable file. This request is therefore declined under section 18(e) in that the document containing the information does not exist or cannot be found.

6. The total cost of the preventable admissions.

As per our response in question 6 there is no coding for such events and therefore specific costs for "preventable admissions" have not been allocated to this category. However, the total cost as reported here is inclusive of all adverse drug reaction admissions whether preventable or not. This request is therefore declined under section 18(e) in that the document containing the information does not exist or cannot be found.

7. The average (both mean and median) bed stay of patients admitted to hospital in relation to adverse drug reactions.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
AR Mean LOS	3	2	2
AR Median LOS	1	1	1

I trust this information answers your questions.

You are entitled to seek a review of this response 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