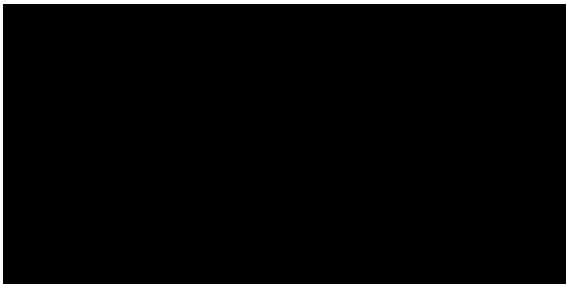


05 October 2018



Re Official Information Request for HQSC data - suspected suicides

Thank you for your Official Information Act request of 31 August 2018 which was extended to Friday, 5 October 2018, to enable full details to be researched in response to your OIA for the following information:

HQSC data released on 06 July 2018 indicates that Auckland DHB had 13 suspected suicides for the 2016/2017 year.

Of these 13 suspected suicides, I am seeking information about the following subgroup: patients aged 15 – 24 years at the time of death.

The information that I am seeking is:

- 1. the total number of patients in this subgroup***
- 2. the number of patients of Maori or Pacific Islander ethnicity***
- 3. the number of patients commenced on SSRI antidepressant therapy within 3 months of death occurring and, within this subgroup:***
- 4. the specific SSRI antidepressant prescribed and the number of weeks The information you requested between the commencement of the SSRI and death occurring.***

The information you requested refers to an earlier OIA release to you by the Health Quality and Safety Commission New Zealand on 14 September 2018 setting out details for adverse event suicide data.

Your request is about the 2016/2017 financial year when 13 outpatient suspected suicides were recorded.

Our records show that of the 13, only one fitted the 15-24 years age sub-group.

In response to your second question, there were no patients of Maori or Pacific Island ethnicity.

There were no patients on SSRI antidepressant medication at the time of death and no patients had been prescribed an SSRI within three months prior to the suspected suicide.

In response to question four, there were no patients in this sub group.

I trust this information answers your questions. You are entitled under the Official Information Act section 28(3) to seek a review of this response. 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