



1 October 2021

Response to a request for official information

Thank you for your request for official information received 29 September 2021 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, where you seek the following information.

We would be grateful if a person responsible for triaging ultrasound referrals would be so kind as to tell us what priority (urgent, semi urgent, routine, declined) and time frame (in days or weeks) your clinicians would put on the following twelve referral scenarios for a trans vaginal ultrasound from a community GP (under a Covid Level 1 scenario)?

Premenopausal 36 year old women with new onset bowel habit changes and bloating of

- A. 1 months duration, normal pelvic exam, negative family history - with CA-125 of 15*
- B. 3 months duration, normal pelvic exam, negative family history - with CA-125 of 15 (stable)*
- C. 3 months duration and new onset urinary frequency, normal pelvic exam, negative family history – with CA-125 of 18 (previously 15)*
- D. 1 months duration, normal pelvic exam, negative family history - with CA-125 of 37*
- E. 1 months duration, normal pelvic exam, negative family history - with CA-125 of 205*
- F. 1 months duration, mass on pelvic exam, negative family history - with CA-125 of 205*

Menopausal 50 year old woman presenting with new bowel habit changes and bloating of

- A. 1 months duration, normal pelvic exam, negative family history - with CA-125 of 15*
- B. 3 months duration, normal pelvic exam, negative family history - with CA-125 of 15 (stable)*
- C. 3 months duration and new onset urinary frequency, normal pelvic exam, negative family history - with CA-125 of 18 (previously 15)*
- D. 1 months duration, normal pelvic exam, negative family history - with CA-125 of 37*
- E. 1 months duration, normal pelvic exam, negative family history - with CA-125 of 205*
- F. 1 months duration, mass on pelvic exam, negative family history - with CA-125 of 205*

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

Response:

In reference to the accepted definition of official information 'held', agencies are required to provide a fact-based response. There is no obligation to create information and/or form an opinion and, as such, NMH declines to respond under section 18(g) '*the information requested is not held*'.

This response has been provided under the Official Information Act 1982. You have the right to seek an investigation by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or free phone 0800 802 602.

If you have any questions about this decision please feel free to email our OIA Coordinator OIArequest@nmdhb.govt.nz NMH, like other agencies across the state sector, supports the open disclosure of information to assist the public's understanding of how we are delivering publicly-funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released. If you feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider.

Yours sincerely



Lexie O'Shea
Chief Executive