

22 April 2020

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Via Email: [REDACTED]

## Response to a request for official information

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for official information as received 14 January 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)<sup>1</sup>, followed by the necessary extension of time 13 February 2020 and notice of decision 12 March 2020, where you seek the following information for Colonoscopies for the period 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019.

### *1. Breakdown in terms of numbers for each type of GP referral that were declined and accepted?*

#### *1A. Non urgent referrals*

#### *1B. Urgent referrals*

TABLE 1

Prioritisation category	Accepted	Declined
Urgent	119	
Non urgent	335	2

### *2. Breakdown in terms of numbers for each type of specialist referral that were declined and accepted?*

#### *2A. Non urgent referrals*

#### *2B. Urgent referrals*

TABLE 2

Prioritisation category	Accepted	Declined
Urgent	140	
Non urgent	196	

#### *2C. Emergency department referrals*

TABLE 3

Prioritisation category	Accepted	Declined
Urgent	10	
Non urgent	3	

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<sup>1</sup> Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

**3. Once the following referral has been accepted how long before seeing a specialist?**

**3A. Non urgent referrals**

**3B. Urgent referrals**

**TABLE 4**

<b>Prioritisation category</b>	<b>Average Days between Referral and First Specialist Appointment</b>
Urgent	20
Non urgent	70

**3C. Emergency department referrals**

Our Patient Information System does not capture this information as the requested referral groupings are not in line with DHB definitions and processes.

**4. How long from the patient first presenting to receiving a colonoscopy and if cancer detected at what stage?**

**4A. Non urgent referrals**

**4B. Urgent referrals**

**4C. Emergency department referrals**

**4D. Specialist referral**

**4E. GP referral**

Please see our response for Question 3C.

**5. How many colonoscopies was your DHB funded for the time period from 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019 and how many were carried out?**

NMH does not allocate specific funding for a particular procedure. The DHB delivered 1876 colonoscopies in 2018/19.

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](http://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](mailto:OIArequest@nmdhb.govt.nz). I trust that this information meets your requirements. 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



**Dr Peter Bramley**  
**Chief Executive**

cc: Ministry of Health via email: [SectorOIA@moh.govt.nz](mailto:SectorOIA@moh.govt.nz)