

16 September 2020

[REDACTED]

Response to a request for official information

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for official information, as transferred from the Ministry of Health and received 18 August 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, followed by the necessary extension of time 15 September 2020, where you seek the following information:

1. What pain management services are available to children with Cerebral Palsy?

NMH response: Children with Cerebral Palsy can be seen by paediatricians locally who can assist with care and pain management as required. When indicated, paediatricians are always able to seek advice or arrange consultation with the Starship Auckland paediatric pain specialist service.

2. What pain management services are available to adults with Cerebral Palsy?

NMH response: Persistent pain services in the community for adults are coordinated by the Primary Health Organisations. Referral to these services can be made by general practitioners and hospital specialists. If adults with Cerebral Palsy have complex pain issues, additional specialist input can be requested through the Burwood pain management service in Christchurch.

3. How are these services accessed?

NMH response: Clients can access pain services through referral by General Practice and Hospital specialists. If pain issues are related to an ACC claim the client's case manager can arrange pain management through ACC channels privately.

4. Are these services available to all New Zealanders or only in some parts of the country?

NMH response: Auckland and Christchurch have the most comprehensive services and other regions can refer or seek advice from these speciality services.

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

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. 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Sinclair', written in a cursive style.

Eric Sinclair
Acting Chief Executive