

15 October 2020

Response to a request for official information

Thank you for your request for official information received 30 September 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, where you seek the following information:

- ***How many GP referrals to hospital specialists have been declined. Can I get this information broken down by specialisation and by month, starting September 2018?***

NMH Response: Please refer to Table 1 for declined First Specialist Appointment (FSA) referrals, which were determined as below the threshold, by specialty and month from September 2018.

TABLE 1

Health Specialty	Month	2018	2019	2020	
Cardiology	Jan		28	14	
	Feb		3	8	
	Mar		19	13	
	Apr		8	19	
	May		14	9	
	Jun		2	25	
	Jul		2	21	
	Aug		12	32	
	Sep	1	20	24	
	Oct	13	11		
	Nov	1	12		
	Dec	15	8		
Dermatology	Jan		1	1	
	Feb		2	2	
	Mar		2	3	
	Jul			1	
	Aug		1	1	
	Sep		1		
	Oct	2	3		
	Nov	3			
	Dec	2			
	Diabetology	Feb		1	
		Aug			1

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

Endocrinology	Jan			1
	Feb			1
	Mar		1	
	Apr			1
	May		2	
	Jul			2
	Aug		2	2
	Sep			2
	Oct	1	2	
	Dec		1	
Gastroenterological Surgery	Apr			1
	Jun			1
	Jul			1
	Aug		1	
	Sep		1	1
Gastroenterology	Jan			5
	Feb			2
	Mar			4
	Apr		1	14
	May		2	3
	Jun			11
	Jul			1
	Aug		5	4
	Sep	1	2	2
	Oct		3	
	Nov		5	
	Dec		3	
General Medicine	Jan		1	10
	Feb		4	7
	Mar			11
	Apr		2	4
	May		5	4
	Jun		1	7
	Jul		2	10
	Aug		3	14
	Sep	5	7	11
	Oct	1	12	
	Nov	2	3	
	Dec	1	11	
General Surgery	Jan		31	14
	Feb		25	12
	Mar		13	64
	Apr		9	24
	May		14	16
	Jun		6	25
	Jul		21	22
	Aug		20	32
	Sep	3	19	21
	Oct	8	25	
	Nov	8	21	
	Dec	10	21	
Gynaecology	Jan		2	29
	Feb		5	33

	Mar		4	31
	Apr		3	11
	May		9	4
	Jun		9	4
	Jul		10	10
	Aug		8	4
	Sep	1	2	7
	Oct	1	7	
	Nov		6	
	Dec		4	
Haematology	Jul			1
	Sep			1
Infectious Diseases	Jan		1	
	Sep			1
Neurology	Feb			2
	Mar		3	4
	Apr		2	4
	May		2	1
	Jun		1	1
	Jul		1	
	Aug		2	
	Sep	5	3	1
	Oct	1		
	Nov	1	1	
	Dec		3	
Oncology	Mar			1
	Apr			1
	Jun			1
	Aug			1
	Sep			1
	Oct		1	
Ophthalmology	Jan		22	16
	Feb		5	13
	Mar		10	18
	Apr		6	5
	May		6	7
	Jun		7	8
	Jul		19	13
	Aug		19	10
	Sep	8	22	14
	Oct	10	18	
	Nov	11	26	
	Dec	8	13	
Orthopaedic Surgery	Jan		100	33
	Feb		81	50
	Mar		71	56
	Apr		63	3
	May		38	31
	Jun		47	60
	Jul		24	48
	Aug		51	47
	Sep	83	39	56
	Oct	38	34	

	Nov	32	23	
	Dec	26	44	
Otorhinolaryngology (ENT)	Jan		33	19
	Feb		24	23
	Mar		39	35
	Apr		25	13
	May		22	13
	Jun		28	19
	Jul		35	23
	Aug		34	13
	Sep	24	16	26
	Oct	27	27	
	Nov	24	34	
	Dec	19	25	
Paediatric Medicine	Jan			6
	Feb		2	2
	Mar		8	6
	Apr			1
	May			5
	Jun		1	9
	Jul		4	4
	Aug		7	7
	Sep		6	6
	Oct		7	
	Nov	1	7	
	Dec		4	
Plastic Surgery [excluding burns]	Jan			1
	Mar			3
	May		1	
	Jun		4	
	Aug			4
	Sep		1	1
	Oct		1	
	Nov		1	
Renal Medicine	May			1
Respiratory Medicine	Mar			1
	Aug			1
	Sep		1	
	Dec	2		
Rheumatology	Jan		6	
	Feb		3	
	Mar		11	
	Apr		7	
	May		1	1
	Jun			1
	Jul		2	11
	Aug		2	4
	Sep	1	1	15
	Oct	5	1	
	Nov	10	1	
	Dec	2	1	
Urology	Jan		20	9

	Feb		8	14
	Mar		8	19
	Apr		5	5
	May		13	4
	Jun		9	10
	Jul		11	3
	Aug		7	13
	Sep	10	9	3
	Oct	13	5	
	Nov	5	14	
	Dec	6	4	
Vascular Surgery	Jan		3	11
	Feb		3	6
	Mar		2	2
	Apr		1	2
	May		1	3
	Jun		2	1
	Jul		8	1
	Aug		1	1
	Sep	1		3
	Oct	1	4	
	Nov	3	4	
	Dec	5	3	

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



Eric Sinclair
Acting Chief Executive