



20 January 2022

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your request dated 24 November 2021 pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982. This was received as a transfer from the Ministry of Health to Waikato District Health Board on 22 December 2021. You have requested the following information:

Guidelines/procedure for investigating possible Colonic Motility Dysfunction/ Defecatory Disorders/Anorectal Dysfunction

Colonic motility dysfunction consists mostly of medical issues for constipation or inflammatory bowel syndrome and is not seen in the public hospital system by gastroenterology other than in exceptional cases. These types of cases are mostly managed by general practitioners (GP) and therefore we do not have Waikato Hospital specific guidelines or procedures. Therefore, we are refusing your request under Section 18(e) of the Official Information Act 1982 because the document that contains the information requested does not exist. GP's can use the Community Health Pathways Te Manawa Taki/Midland Regions to aid in the diagnosis and treatment options for presenting patients.

Waikato DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community understanding of how we are delivering publically 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.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

Christine Lowry
Executive Director - Hospital and Community Services
Waikato District Health Board