

24 March 2021

(name and contact details redacted)

Dear (name redacted)

YOUR OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT (1982) REQUEST HBDHB REF: OIA2021019

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 22 February 2021 where you requested information from Hawke's Bay District Health Board (HBDHB). Your questions and HBDHB's response is provided below:

I wish to receive information regarding the number of formal complaints about surgical equipment mistakenly being left behind in patients in the last three years, which went to the Health and Disability Commissioner or resulted in a review of hospital policy at Hawke's Bay District Health Board. Can this information be broken down by year, what the item was, how long it was mistakenly left in the patient for, when it was removed and the effect(s) on the patient.

In the last three years no formal complaints about surgical equipment mistakenly being left in patients have been received by Hawke's Bay DHB.

I trust this information meets your needs. If you would like any further information or clarification please phone me. If you are not satisfied with this response you may contact the Office of the Ombudsman, phone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Hawke's Bay DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

Robin Whyman
CHIEF MEDICAL AND DENTAL OFFICER

cc: Ministry of Health via email: SectorOIA@moh.govt.nz
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