

1 March 2021

Ph: (09) 630-9943 ext: 22342

Email: ailsac@adhb.govt.nz

Alastair JL

By email: fyi-request-14772-b79a529@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Alastair

Re: Official Information Act request – Use of blood products

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 25 February 2021 requesting the following information:

The New Zealand medical system makes use of a large number of products derived from donated human blood. I would like to like to ask some questions about the use of these blood products, within the scope of the Official Information Act.

1. At the point of donation, blood is divided into whole blood, plasma, and platelet donation. My understanding is that by the time of use, blood is divided into more and/or different categories by the point of use. Is this correct? What are the blood products/categories relevant at the point of use?
2. Within the Auckland region, how many units of each blood product were used between January 1st 2020 and the end of December 2020? (If some other time window is more easily available, any time window longer than 3 months and within the last 3 years is of equal interest)
3. For the same time window as above, how many of each end product were used by each hospital? Are any used outside the public hospital system, and if so, how are these distributed.
4. How many units of each blood product were used by each department of Middlemore Hospital (over the same time window as used in the above questions)? Alternatively, if data is more available on a ward by ward basis, or at some other meaningful scale that I have not asked about here, then whatever level of granularity is most readily available would be appreciated.

This information is not held by us but is believed to be held by the New Zealand Blood Services. In these circumstances we are required by section 14 of the Official Information Act to transfer your request. We have transferred your request to the New Zealand Blood Services. You will hear further from the New Zealand Blood Services concerning your request.

Yours faithfully



Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive of Te Toka Tumai (Auckland District Health Board)

Encl. Transfer letter to The NZ Blood Services

1 March 2021

NZ Blood Services

By email to: Info@nzblood.co.nz

Personal and Confidential

Re Transfer of request for Official Information – Use of blood products

I write concerning an official information request received from Alastair JL on 25 February 2021 requesting the following information:

The New Zealand medical system makes use of a large number of products derived from donated human blood. I would like to like to ask some questions about the use of these blood products, within the scope of the Official Information Act.

- 1. At the point of donation, blood is divided into whole blood, plasma, and platelet donation. My understanding is that by the time of use, blood is divided into more and/or different categories by the point of use. Is this correct? What are the blood products/categories relevant at the point of use?**
- 2. Within the Auckland region, how many units of each blood product were used between January 1st 2020 and the end of December 2020? (If some other time window is more easily available, any time window longer than 3 months and within the last 3 years is of equal interest)**
- 3. For the same time window as above, how many of each end product were used by each hospital? Are any used outside the public hospital system, and if so, how are these distributed.**
- 4. How many units of each blood product were used by each department of Middlemore Hospital (over the same time window as used in the above questions)? Alternatively, if data is more available on a ward by ward basis, or at some other meaningful scale that I have not asked about here, then whatever level of granularity is most readily available would be appreciated.**

Auckland DHB does not hold this information. This request is being transferred in full to your agency for response.

Please treat this letter as a formal transfer of the request under section 14 of the Official Information Act. You should be aware that a response must be provided to the requester as soon as reasonably practicable, and no later than 20 working days after the day this transfer is received by your agency, unless an extension of time is required and duly notified to the requester.

Yours faithfully



Ailsa Claire, OBE

Chief Executive of Te Toka Tumai (Auckland District Health Board)

Encl. *Copy of request from Alastair JL*
Notification of transfer letter to Alastair JL