



Lakes District Health Board
Corner Arawa and Ranolf Streets (Pukeroa Street)
Private Bag 3023, Rotorua Mail Centre
Rotorua 3046, New Zealand

12 October 2021

Michael Vaughan

E mail: fyi-request-16802-906337e6@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Michael

Subject: Official Information Act request re: COVID treatment procedures

Thank you for your request for information under the Official Information Act received by Lakes DHB on 30 September 2021.

1) What is the Covid-19 treatment protocol for hospitalised cases?

See attachment from MOH.

2) Are some DHB's following different treatment protocols from others?

Unable to answer this specifically.

3) Are DHB's free to make decisions about treatments for individuals with Covid-19?

DHBs are encouraged to follow robust MOH guidelines.

4) To what extent are patients able to participate in decision-making about their treatment programmes?

Patients are always encouraged to include family and to participate in decisions regarding their health plans.

5) If a patient requests a blood test for Vitamin D and/or the administration of high dosage Vitamin C, are hospital staff able to provide these?

If tests are clinically indicated and part of standard recognised practice guidelines, they will not be unreasonably declined.

6) Do hospital staff have the right to refuse a patient's request and, if so, is there a process for a patient to appeal the decision?

There is always the possibility that either clinician or patient may disagree with the other's opinion, decision or request. If either patient or clinician are faced with a request they are uncomfortable with, they are encouraged to have a respectful inclusive discussion. Both clinicians and patients can request for a second opinion to be given.

Please note we may publish this letter and enclosed documents (with your personal information removed) on Lakes DHB's website.

Yours sincerely



**Nick Saville-Wood
Chief Executive**

Cc: sectoroias@moh.govt.nz