



18 November 2020

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

**Official Information Act Request**

You have asked for information about non-resident debt related to health services.

*What was the value of treatment provided to non-resident patients in each of the last five years and in 2020 as of October 1?*

*How much of that was paid in each of those years and how much was left owing?*

*How much has been written off in each of those years?*

*What was the largest bill racked up by a non-resident patient in that period and what was it for? If different, what was the largest un-paid bill in that period and what was it for?*

*Can you break the costs down by type of treatment?*

Eligibility criteria relating to publicly funded healthcare allows some non-New Zealand citizens and residents to be eligible for publicly funded healthcare. If a patient is eligible to receive publicly funded health care we do not capture the cost of treating those individuals. Information on eligibility criteria can be found on the Ministry of Health’s website ([www.health.govt.nz](http://www.health.govt.nz)).

Northland DHB collects its financial data by financial year. The amounts for the relevant period are listed in the following table and are GST exclusive. Please note that the amounts are for the total invoiced to people not eligible to receive publicly funded healthcare and does not include care for treatment covered by ACC.

Data for the value of treatment provided and debt written off is listed in the following table. The amounts are exclusive of GST. The debt written off is the amount written off in the particular year and does not necessarily correlate with the year the services were provided.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Treatment provided	\$483,745.00	\$298,799.00	\$493,081.00	\$671,261.00	\$385,486.00
Debt written off	\$39,442.00	\$52,890.00	\$50,704.00	\$44,731.00	\$401,971.00

The largest amount billed to a patient not eligible to receive publicly funded health care was \$214,44.00.00 (GST excl) for treatment and management of complex health needs by the Department of Medicine. This was also the largest unpaid amount.

Northland DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist public understanding of how we deliver our services. This includes proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been provided to you. Personal or identifying information will be redacted from any response published online. If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be publicly available we will consider your views.

If you have any questions regarding Northland DHB's response to your information request please contact Northland DHB's Communications Manager, in the first instance at [communications@northlanddhb.org.nz](mailto:communications@northlanddhb.org.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'NICK', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Dr Nick Chamberlain**  
**Chief Executive**