



14 February 2022



Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request

You have asked for information about cancer misdiagnosis or delays in diagnosis.

- *how many people had a cancer misdiagnosis in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021?*
- *how many people had a delayed diagnosis of cancer in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021?*

Northland DHB is unable to supply the information requested as we do not record this data in our electronic data systems. In order to obtain the information, the records of each individual cancer patient from 2017 – 2021 would require review by a clinician. Not only would this take substantial collation and research it would take the clinician away from their primary clinical task of treating patients.

I have therefore decided to decline your request in accordance with section 18(f) of the Official Information Act as the information is not available without substantial collation and research. You have a right to complain to the Ombudsman about my decision to decline your request.

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.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Nick Chamberlain', written over a light green circular watermark.

Dr Nick Chamberlain
Chief Executive