



13 January 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request

The Ministry of Health transferred part of your request regarding gastro-intestinal referrals to Northland DHB on 2 December 2021.

The percentage of patients that have been declined referrals from multiple internal and external requests for gastro-intestinal department. -Multiple being more than 3 separate GP/Doctor referrals"

You subsequently clarified that the timeframe for your request was 1 January 2010 to 1 November 2021.

Northland DHB is unable to provide information back to 2010 as the electronic database which captures this information had not been introduced. We began capturing the gastrointestinal related referral data progressively from June 2012. A review of the information shows no declined referrals. All referrals are reviewed by a specialist, triaged and appropriate action taken. This may include treatment advice, or a treatment plan being provided to the referring clinician.

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 queries about Northland DHB's response to your information request please contact me.

Yours sincerely

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

Dr Nick Chamberlain
Chief Executive