



15 July 2021



Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request

You have asked for information about funded treatments for gender healthcare.

1. *How many people were referred to the DHB for gender reassignment hormone therapy in each calendar year since 2006 until the present time?*
2. *What was the breakdown of ages in each of those years (youngest/oldest/median age)?*
3. *How many were transitioning male to female and how many female to male in each of those years?*

As previously advised Northland DHB does not capture the information electronically. We are able to give an estimate only as not all patients referred for gender identity issues are specifically referred for gender reassignment hormone therapy. For the period 2006 to present approximately 60 people have been referred.

Referrals are accepted from onset of puberty onwards. The age range is 15 to mid 70s with a median age between 25 and 30 years.

The patient group is evenly split between female/male transition and male/female transition.

4. *How many children were referred for puberty blocking drugs in each calendar year since 2006?*

As noted above we are able to give an estimate only as not all young people (from onset of puberty to 16 years) referred for gender identity issues are specifically referred for puberty blocking drugs. Twenty one children/adolescents have been referred to Paediatric Services since 2006 for gender health related issues.

5. *How many people had psychological treatment for gender dysphoria in each calendar year since 2006?*

Northland DHB does not record this information outside of individual medical files. Not all individuals who are seen by a Northland DHB mental health professional are undergoing "treatment" as assessment for the purpose of receiving gender affirming health care may involve consultation with a mental health professional.

6. *How many people had double mastectomies (top surgery) as treatment for gender dysphoria in each calendar year since 2006?*

Mastectomy is undertaken via Breast Clinic referral to the Plastic Surgery Unit at Counties Manukau DHB. As the procedure is not undertaken by Northland DHB we do not hold this information outside of individual medical files.

7. *What was the breakdown of ages in each of those years?*

Please see the response to the preceding question.

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



Ian McKenzie
Acting Chief Executive