



30 November 2020



Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request

You have asked for information about surgical equipment.

I wish to receive information regarding the number of formal complaints about surgical equipment mistakenly being left behind in patients in the last three years, which went to the Health and Disability Commissioner or resulted in a review of hospital policy.

Can this information be broken down by year, what the item was, how long it was mistakenly left in the patient for, when it was removed and the effect(s) on the patient.

Northland DHB has received no formal complaints about surgical equipment mistakenly being left in patients in the last three years.

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 read 'Nick Chamberlain'.

Dr Nick Chamberlain
Chief Executive