



5 May 2021

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

**Official Information Act Request**

You have asked for information about children presenting at Northland DHB hospitals with dog bites.

The data below is only for children who present at one of our hospitals. We do not capture information for children who present to primary care providers.

1. *How many children aged 0-14 have presented to hospital with a dog-related injury in the last year?*

From 1 April 2020 to 1 April 2021 there were 47 presentations of children aged 0 – 14 years for a dog related injury. In some cases the same child may have presented more than once for the same injury. This can occur if a wound dressing needs changing or a complication develops.

2. *How many of those children required a procedure (e.g sutures), or admission?*

Inpatient events	10
Repair of wound – skin and subcutaneous tissue	13
Patient not admitted and no sutures required	24
<b>Total Presentations</b>	<b>47</b>

3. *What were the ethnic and age demographics of the children?*

Of the 47 presentations noted above 33 identified as Māori, 3 as Pacific and 11 as non-Māori.

Age	
0-4 years	15
5-9 years	21
10-14 years	11

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 read 'N Chamberlain', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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