



1 May 2024



Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Re: Official information request regarding falls in Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora organisations

I refer to your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Official Information Act) partially transferred to Te Tāhū Hauora Health Quality & Safety Commission from Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora (Health New Zealand) on 9 April 2024. You asked for information regarding:

“the latest and most accessible information relating to total number of fall related deaths (either per region or hospital or other commonly used recording process).”

We have completed your request shown in Table 1 for the latest and most accessible information related from 1 July 2023 to 22 April 2024.

Table 1: Adverse events reported to Te Tāhū Hauora by Health New Zealand hospitals between 1 July 2023 to 22 April 2024 where death occurred following a fall

Health New Zealand provider organisation	Total number fall related deaths
Capital, Coast and Hutt Valley	1
Counties Manukau	1
Southern	1
Te Matau a Maui Hawkes Bay	1
Te Toka Tumai Auckland - hospital in the home	1
Waitemata	2

Downloaded from the Te Tāhū Hauora Health Quality & Safety Commission adverse events database 22 April 2024 using the provider internal notification date.

It is important to know that these adverse events are based on the provider's internal notification date. Some events may be withdrawn or downgraded once a review is complete if the information obtained during this process indicates that the death relates to other causes than the fall.

Further, on 12 April 2024, Health New Zealand contacted Te Tāhū Hauora to transfer an extension to your request to also include the number of patients whose deaths are not found to be 'fall related' but have fallen at some point during their hospital stay. This is not

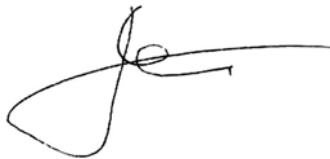
information we hold and would need to be requested of either regions or hospitals to assess patient records. Therefore, this request is declined under section 18(e) of the Act.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact us at info@hqsc.govt.nz.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that Te Tāhū Hauora publishes some of its OIA responses on its website, after the response is sent to the requester. The responses published are those that are considered to have a high level of public interest. We will not publish your name, address, or contact details.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Jansen', with a stylized loop and a horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr Peter Jansen
Chief Executive

Te Tāhū Hauora Health Quality & Safety Commission

