



**Te Tāhū Hauora**  
Health Quality & Safety  
Commission

4 August 2025

██████████  
Via email: ██████████

Tēnā koe Andrew

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request of 24 July 2025 requesting the following information, your numbered questions are addressed in order below.

*Following Health New Zealand's release of its "[Nelson Marlborough Clinical Quality & Systems Review](#)" yesterday, I had a couple of questions about the HQSC data referenced in it. Paragraphs 31 to 34 of the report refer to "national quality alert reports" provided by HQSC to HNZ and footnotes 5 and 6 provide some further information. So I wanted to know.*

- 1) Is this information publicly available on your website? (I had a quick look, but was unsuccessful tracking it down).*
  - 2) In these reports, what is the threshold for an "alert" as referenced in paragraph 31?*
  - 3) Are these 14 measures reported quarterly the only ones reported quarterly to Health New Zealand and who selected them as the ones to report?*
  - 4) Is it possible to see all the national, regional and district data for the 14 measures and is it possible to see them over time (rather than just the 1 snapshot for March 2025)?*
- 1) The quality alert itself isn't made publicly available as it is designed as a flag for local investigation rather than an overarching judgement, so they are "provisional" in their meaning. The measures inside the alert are drawn from data we publish in:
- QSMs, [Quality & Safety Markers | Te Tāhū Hauora Health Quality & Safety Commission](#)
  - Quality dashboard, [Quality Dashboards | Te Tāhū Hauora Health Quality & Safety Commission](#)
  - Patient experience surveys [Survey results | Te Tāhū Hauora Health Quality & Safety Commission](#)
  - The Atlas of healthcare variation [Atlas of Healthcare Variation | Te Tāhū Hauora Health Quality & Safety Commission](#)

- 2) There are a few other measures currently unpublished, such as pressure injuries, which are reported through national minimum datasets (NMDS). We use statistical process control (SPC) and sign tests to identify statistically significant change in any given measure and contextualise this with measures of inter-district variation. All alerts go through manual moderation processes to address known false positives.
- 3) We review every indicator that we updated in the previous quarter (which with individual survey questions runs to about 100 different measures) not just the 14 highlighted in the report. While the Commission was not involved in the Nelson Marlborough review, it appears that the 14 measures referenced are a grouping of the broader measures sorted into themes based on alerts triggered across the measures. The measures we use are those we have developed over a decade of our work – they all measure important aspects of the safety, patient centredness or effectiveness.
- 4) These are available from the links above. Should you require further guidance please contact [REDACTED]

You are entitled, under section 28(2) of the Act, to seek an investigation and review of this decision by the Ombudsman.

Nāku noa, nā



Kere Pomare  
Acting Chief Executive Officer  
**Te Tāhū Hauora Health Quality & Safety Commission**

