

22 July 2021

s 9(2)(a)

Ref: H202108227

Tēnā koe

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 7 July 2021.
I shall respond to each part of your request below:

1. When was the MoH publication 'Guide to Managing Colonoscopy Wait Time Indicator Performance' dated November 2019 removed from the MoH/NSU website?

The document was removed on 28 May 2021.

2. What were the reasons for its removal?

The document was removed because it no longer reflects current Ministry of Health (the Ministry) expectations. The reporting requirements are not current, and expectations have been refined over the past two years through the district health board (DHB) annual planning process. For example, the Ministry developed alternative performance criteria through the DHB annual planning process due to the impact of COVID-19 which are not reflected in the 2019 guide.

3. Are there plans to replace this guidance?

This will depend on the outcome of the review, the need to ensure any guidance document is aligned with expectations in the DHB annual planning process, and the impending changes to the health system.

4. When will it be replaced?

Once the Guide to Managing Colonoscopy Wait Time Indicator Performance has been reviewed, a date for publishing will be determined if appropriate.

5. How will any replacement guidance differ from the version removed?

The revised guidance will reflect current Ministry expectations and focus on timeliness to treatment. Some changes envisaged include:

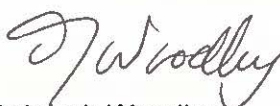
- the bowel screening performance target is under review as part of the implementation of the new information technology solution
- sections seven (temporary dispensation for urgent colonoscopy wait-time indicator compliance) and nine (readiness requirements for bowel screening in terms of colonoscopy wait-time indicator compliance) are no longer relevant

- section eight (declined colonoscopy referrals) is not a requirement. Whilst summary decline data was received from some DHBs the measurement of declines is not consistent and cannot be nationally monitored.

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 this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā



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