

13 May 2022

[REDACTED]

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**Re: Official Information Act request – COVID-19 Admissions - ADHB Ref: 20220223-1197**

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 21 March requesting the following information:

**"Please indicate what is your exact procedure for determining that hospital admissions in this current time are in fact directly due to covid.**

**le: are u testing people who are admitting themselves for something non respiratory related and if they test positive after admission for sars cov 2 are you listing it as a covid admission regardless**

**le: people who are admitted for something respiratory related that is later diagnosed as not sars cov 2, are you indicating them as covid hospitalizations if they return a positive test during admission."**

#### **Response**

All patients who present for care at Te Toka Tumai Auckland DHB are screened using a clinical screening tool. The purpose of the screening tool is to provide decision support and guidance for our clinical teams to make decisions around personal protective equipment requirements (for both patients and staff), testing and bed placement.

All admitted patients who have tested positive for COVID-19 on admission or within the past seven days are included in our reporting to the Ministry of Health. Some patients may be admitted to hospital for reasons other than their COVID-19 infection.

Please see Attachment 1 Inpatient Screening Tool COVID-19.

We trust you find this to be informative.

You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Auckland DHB website.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ailsa Claire".

Ailsa Claire, OBE  
**Chief Executive**

Encl.

1. *Attachment 1 Inpatient Screening Tool*