



**Waitematā**  
District Health Board  
Best Care for Everyone

**Provider Healthcare Services**

North Shore Hospital Campus  
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Auckland 0740  
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26 May 2020

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

**Re: OIA request – COVID-19 deaths**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 18 May 2020 as a partial transfer of an OIA request you made via the Ministry of Health seeking information about COVID-19 deaths from Waitematā DHB.

In response to your request, we can provide the following information:

**What percentage of NZ COVID-19 deaths to date had Do Not Resuscitate orders?**

As the number of patients is very low, we feel that disclosing this information would breach patient confidentiality and their right to privacy. Therefore, we are refusing this element of your request under section 9(2)(a) of the act as withholding the information is necessary to protect the privacy of these individuals. The public interest in knowing this information is not outweighed by the need to protect their privacy.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Waitematā DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community understanding of how we are delivering publicly funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released.

If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider your views.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mark Shepherd'.

**Mark Shepherd**  
Director Provider Healthcare Services  
Waitematā District Health Board