



09 February 2022

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Official Information Act request:

Further to your letter dated 11 December made under the Official Information Act 1982 that was transferred to Waikato DHB from Department of Internal Affairs on 22 December 2021.

Specifically, you requested:

- 1. How many recorded assaults on health staff have there been in 2021?**
- 2. How many recorded incidents of verbal abuse or threats have there been on health staff in 2021?**

01 Jan - 31 December 2021	Physical contact (actual assault)	Physical threat (no contact)	Psychological abuse (bullying and harassment)	Verbal Abuse	Verbal abuse with gender content	Verbal abuse with racial content
Inappropriate/Aggressive Behaviour towards Staff by a Patient	295	117	7	100	<5	15
Inappropriate/Aggressive Behaviour towards Staff by a Visitor	5	6	<5	26	0	<5
Inappropriate/Aggressive Behaviour towards Staff by Staff	<5	<5	16	24	0	<5

Please note: <5 indicates we have recorded an incident but as there are fewer than 5 in accordance with section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act we are withholding the information to protect individuals privacy.

- 3. How many days have been lost due to staff taking time off after being assaulted in the same time frame?**

The total number of lost days in 2021 from assaults is 336.

You have the right to request The Ombudsman investigate and review the decision to withhold information. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800802602.



Waikato DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community understanding of how we are delivering publically 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.

I trust this answers your query.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'K. Coley', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kate Coley
Executive Director Organisational Support
Waikato District Health Board