

13 October 2020

David Lawson

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Tēnā koe David

Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-006898

Thank you for your request of 16 September 2020, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I am writing to respectfully request the following official information with respect to Orthopaedic Surgeon Mr Clayton Chan;

OIA Request 1:

Please confirm on a yearly basis commencing from the 1 July 2008, through until the 30 June 2015 the following official information;

- (i) The combined number of orthopaedic discectomy or spinal fusion surgeries Mr Clayton Chan has preformed for ACC purposes on ACC claimant's cervical spines, for each year, and*
- (ii) The number of the orthopaedic surgeries that Mr Chan performed that were for the first accident to a ACC claimants cervical spine, for each year, and*
- (iii) The number of the orthopaedic surgeries that Mr Chan performed were classified as revision surgery to an ACC claimants cervical spine, and how many of the revision surgeries were for claimants that Mr Chan had performed the original cervical surgery for, and*
- (iv) The number of surgeries that Mr Chan preformed a spinal fusion to the cervical spine, and*
- (v) The number of surgeries that in which Mr Chan performed a Discectomy to the cervical spine*

OIA Request 2:

Please confirm on a yearly basis commencing from the 1 July 2008, through until the 30 June 2015 the following official information;

- (i) The combined number of orthopaedic discectomy or spinal fusion surgeries Mr Clayton Chan has preformed for ACC purposes on ACC claimant's thoracic spines, for each year, and*
- (ii) The number of the orthopaedic surgeries that Mr Chan performed that were for the first accident to a ACC claimants thoracic spine, for each year, and*
- (iii) The number of the orthopaedic surgeries that Mr Chan performed were classified as revision surgery to an ACC claimants thoracic spine, and how many of the revision surgeries were for claimants that Mr Chan had performed the original thoracic surgery for*
- (iv) The number of surgeries that Mr Chan preformed a spinal fusion to the thoracic spine, and*
- (v) The number of surgeries that in which Mr Chan performed a Discectomy to the thoracic spine*

OIA Request 3:

Please confirm on a yearly basis commencing from the 1 July 2008, through until the 30 June 2015 the following official information;

- (i) The combined number of orthopaedic discectomy or spinal fusion surgeries Mr Clayton Chan has preformed for ACC purposes on ACC claimant's lumbar spines, for each year, and*
- (ii) The number of the orthopaedic surgeries that Mr Chan performed that were for the first accident to a ACC claimants lumbar spine, for each year, and*
- (iii) The number of the orthopaedic surgeries that Mr Chan performed were classified as revision surgery to an ACC claimants lumbar spine, and how many of the revision surgeries were for claimants that Mr Chan had performed the original lumbar surgery for .*
- (iv) The number of surgeries that Mr Chan preformed a spinal fusion to the lumbar spine, and*
- (v) The number of surgeries that in which Mr Chan performed a Discectomy to the lumbar spine*

Our response to your request

ACC is unable to readily retrieve the information you have requested. The level of detail that you have asked for is not something that ACC holds in our systems in an extractable manner, and it would require a manual search of individual claims and surgery documentation to be able to respond to your requests. This would require many hours of research and collation and would be administratively burdensome.

Because of the reasons above, we are refusing your request for information under section 18(f) of the Act, as it would require substantial collation and research. We have considered extending the time for us to respond to your request or charging for the time it would take for us to complete the work. However, we have not done this as in either instance it would unreasonably interfere with our ability to carry out our usual work.

How you can reach us

If you have any questions, you can email me at GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz.

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Sasha Wood
Manager Official Information Act Services
Government Engagement & Support