

7 March 2022

Chris Johnston

By email: [fyi-request-18177-0cd959c4@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-18177-0cd959c4@requests.fyi.org.nz)  
Ref: H202201215

Tēnā koe Chris

### **Response to your request for official information**

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 4 February 2022 as a follow up to your original request H202117890.

You stated:

*"I understand that I requested the wrong code under the US coding scheme not the Australian coding scheme".*

You then requested:

*"Could you please adjust the OIA request above using the ICD-10-AM code T50.9 Poisoning by other and unspecified drugs, medicaments and biological substances. I still need the split by emergency, inpatient and outpatient as described above".*

The Ministry is releasing this to you in full in Appendix 1 attached to this response. Appendix 1 contains of the number of publicly funded hospital discharges from 2011/12 to 2020/21. This data comes from the National Minimum Dataset (NMDS), which contains information on hospitalisation events. These are reported to the Ministry after discharge.

Emergency Department (ED) attendances are reported to NNPAAC (the National Non-admitted Patients Collection). Diagnosis is not reported to the Ministry, so we are unable to provide that information. If an ED attendance is over 3 hours, then the patient is considered admitted to hospital and this event will be reported to NMDS. However, there is no field in NMDS which indicates that the patient initially came in through ED, and then was admitted. If the patient was discharged out of ED, the specialty code – which is recorded at discharge – would indicate that they were in ED. If the patient was transferred to another speciality within the hospital, there is no indication that they originally arrived via ED.

I trust this information fulfils your request. 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](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Gaynor Bradfield  
**Manager, Office of The Deputy-Director General  
Data and Digital**