

29 August 2014

David Nicholas  
[fyi-request-1881-93205685@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-1881-93205685@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Mr Nicholas

### Official Information Act 1982 request

On 11 August 2014 you asked ACC for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (Act):

*"I am an educational, health and welfare blogger currently preparing a story about Timaru Hospital (SCDHB) and require some data from you to verify SCDHD claims.*

*Please provide the number of ACC 45 forms that have been submitted by the SCDHB - Timaru Public Hospital going back 5 years by month and a brief summary of what those claims were for. I am interested in the number of falls that have happened."*

Section 12(2) of the Act provides that:

"The official information requested shall be specified with due particularity in the request."

ACC is unable to identify the specific details you want from the way in which you have worded your request. Without more specific information, ACC is unable to make a decision under the Act. Please contact us again, clearly stating the information you need.

The following information may assist you to clarify your request:

- When you say "*the number of ACC45 forms that have been submitted from SCDHB*" do you mean any claim form physically or electronically sent from the SCDHB? If so this will cover all claims made, regardless of where the incident occurred. For example, a fall at home coming through Accident and Emergency would meet this criteria.
- Do you mean accidents occurring on the premises at SCDHB?
  - Claim forms do not always state where an accident occurred, and if they did record it was at SCDHB, the data system will just show it occurred at a "Place of Medical Treatment". Therefore claims from people who live in Timaru, which occurred at a 'place of medical treatment' would be included in the data provided.
  - If the accident was to a patient during treatment by SCDHB, this would be coded as a treatment injury by SCDHB, and therefore could be provided. If a patient had an accident on SCDHB premises that was unrelated to their treatment, this would not be included.
- Do you mean accidents involving SCDHB employees? This will include injuries sustained on the SCDHB premises and on any outpatient visits.
- For any of the above categories, do you require information on falls only?

Once ACC receives this additional information from you, and is satisfied that the requirements of section 12 have been met, ACC will acknowledge the request and begin to consider its decision under the Act. The 20 working days for making a decision on your request will begin from the day ACC receives the particulars of your request.

Please contact me on [Lisa.White@acc.co.nz](mailto:Lisa.White@acc.co.nz) if you would like assistance with clarifying your request. I will be happy to answer any questions or, if you have any concerns, work with you to resolve these.

If you are not happy with ACC's decision to establish compliance with section 12, you may make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsman. You can call them on 0800 802 602, 9am to 5pm weekdays, or write to:

The Office of the Ombudsman  
PO Box 10 152  
WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely



Lisa White  
**Senior Advisor, Government Services**