

25 July 2024

By email: [fyi-request-27264-90869b81@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-27264-90869b81@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe B Melvin/M Belvin

I refer to your request for information dated 14 June 2024 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested:

*"I am requesting to know if there have been any ELM students in recent years, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 who accessed areas of the hospital that they were not permitted to do so.*

*If there were students who did this I would like to know what punitive action was taken to ensure this would not happen again. This is in regards to the students themselves and any other students or staff who allowed for such an event to occur. I also wish to know how the patient may have been informed or managed.*

*As this would be a breach of professional conduct and patient rights, I do see that a student who carried out an action like this would be suitable to continue training as a health professional unless they received ongoing monitoring and significant evaluation.*

*To clarify, I am not asking for the name of any student or worker, but rather confirmation of any such event as outlined above."*

As far as the University is aware, no Early Learning in Medicine (ELM) students have accessed parts of Dunedin Public Hospital that they were not permitted to do so between 2021 and 2024 (to date). We note that cohort-level activities (e.g., class-wide lectures, tutorials, laboratory learning) do not typically occur in clinical areas of Dunedin Public Hospital.

In case it is helpful, we note that the following webpage outlines policies, guidelines, and other documents applicable to Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MB ChB) students and staff: <https://www.otago.ac.nz/oms/education/mbchb/current-students/resources/policies-guides>. This includes documents related to assessment, codes of conduct, study options, and safety and well-being.

If you are not satisfied with our response to your information request, section 28(3) of the Act provides you with the right to ask an Ombudsman to investigate and review this response. However, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss any concerns with you first.

Ngā mihi



Kelsey Kennard  
Official Information and Compliance Coordinator  
Office of the Registrar