

23 January 2018

Health Sector Workers Network  
FYI website address

Via email: [Fyi-request-6981-30ed95b2@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:Fyi-request-6981-30ed95b2@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Health Sector Workers Network

### Official Information Act request – Use of mechanical restraints

On 11 December 2017, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from district health boards:

1. *All policy documents relating to restraint practices at your DHB*
2. *Are there instances in the last year (June 2016 to June 2017) of the use of mechanical restraints? (i.e. strapping arms to bed) this is also referred to as physical restraint.*
3. *Can you please provide this data for both physical and mental health services and identify the service associated with this data?*

### Whanganui District Health Boards response:

Please see attached policy documents relating to restraint practices and Whanganui DHB.



Restraint Policy  
August 17.doc



6105 Safe Use of  
Bed Rails Procedure V



7130 Mechanical  
Restraint Procedure V



5462 Safe Use of  
Enablers Procedure V



6100 Use of Safety  
Belt and Table Procecd



2 MHAS Restraint  
Procedure.doc

One mechanical/physical restraint occurred between the period 1 June 2016 to 31 June 2017 within the general hospital setting (Emergency Department). Please see attached incident report.



RAC health sector  
report\_.docx

Mechanical restraint does not occur in either of the mental health inpatient setting at Whanganui DHB.

I trust this information will satisfy your request. If you have any further queries, please contact our OIA coordinator in the first instance: [shonelle.fergusson@wdhb.org.nz](mailto:shonelle.fergusson@wdhb.org.nz)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Walden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brian Walden  
**Acting Chief Executive**