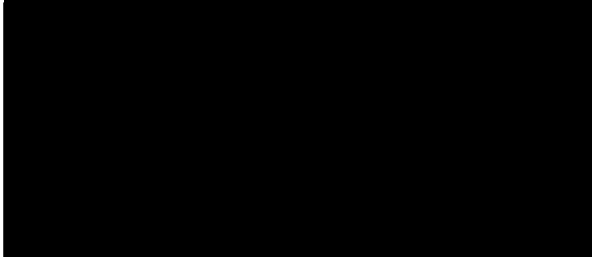




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6 August 2020



Re Official Information Request – total sum paid to medical colleges on behalf of SMOs and RMOs

I refer to your official information request dated 21 July 2020 requesting:

The total sum paid to each medical college by your DHB on behalf of all medical practitioners. For the avoidance of doubt, this is sums paid by the DHB directly to medical colleges and through reimbursements on behalf of SMOs and RMOs.

As previously advised, payments made by DHBs to colleges on behalf of medical practitioners are generally not made direct, they are almost inevitably made to the individual doctor as a work expense reimbursement. Accordingly, a simple search for all money paid by Auckland DHB to each of a number of named colleges will not provide an answer to your question. What would be required is the review of thousands of line items of reimbursement claims.

I am advised that the line item in the financial system may not record the college related to the claim, so this would then need to be followed by an investigation into the invoices provided to find a relevant college. Your request is therefore declined under s18(f) OIA – the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation.

You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Auckland DHB website.

Yours faithfully

Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive