

Our reference: CHSFOI23-24.16

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

### **DECISION ON YOUR ACCESS APPLICATION**

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (FOI Act), received by Canberra Health Services (CHS) on Thursday 24 August 2023.

This application requested access to:

*'The following information in the interest of the ACT public community regarding ACT Health Services' provision of equal services to its patients within its Wound Clinics.*

*I would like Community Care Nursing ACT including Community Care Nursing, Belconnen Health Centre (BCC) provide me with copies of the following:*

- 1. All records pertaining to my personal information including but not limited to documents including by its Home Visit Service and wound management plans, and staff correspondences by all communication modes.*
- 2. January 2020 - September BCC 2023 stock orders for Duoderm Extra Thin and Mepilex 16 \* 20cm Border Sacrum (please include date of orders and items ordered), and stock orders received (similar details please).*
- 3. All information dated January 2020 – September 2023 pertaining to BCC's provision of Duoderm Extra Thin and Mepilex Border Sacrum 16 \* 20cm to its patients.*
- 4. All information pertaining to Community Nursing Care's January 2020 – September 2023 treatment of Lymphedema wounds including by its wound care practices.*
- 5. All information pertaining to Belconnen Community Care's June 2023 – September 2023 correspondences with G.P Dr Eu Jern Tan of Next Practice, Braddon.'*

I am an Information Officer appointed by the Chief Executive Officer of Canberra Health Services (CHS) under section 18 of the FOI Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the Act. CHS was required to provide a decision on your access application by Friday 6 October 2023.

Information has been extracted from Canberra Health Services information systems and collated in a document holding the information within scope of the second part of your access application. This document is at [Attachment A](#) to this decision letter.

## Decisions

I have decided to grant full access to 1 document. This is in response to point 2 of your application. I have decided that any information held by CHS in relation to points 1, 3 and 5 would constitute a health record for the purposes of the *Health Records (privacy and Access) Act 1997* (the HR Act). This information would contain the treatment, health, illness, or disability of consumers of CHS. Some information within point 4 of your request would also constitute a health record. Section 12 of the FOI Act specifies that the FOI Act does not apply to health records and personal health information, must be sought under the HR Act. This information has not been assessed in this response. Further information on how to access Health Records can be found at [Your health record - Canberra Health Services \(act.gov.au\)](#).

Regarding point 4, the Community Care Program consists of a highly trained team with extensive experience. There is a range of publicly available information used by the team in the treatment of Lymphedema wounds, first and foremost the team uses the CHS wound management procedure.

 [Wound Prevention and Management Procedure.doc](#)

Some other publicly available best practice guidelines for lymphoedema management include:

[best practice \(woundsinternational.com\)](#)

[Lymphoedema: A guide for clinical services \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

[Publications - International Lymphoedema Framework](#)

In reaching my access decision, I have taken the following into account:

- The FOI Act;
- The contents of the documents that fall within the scope of your request;
- The views of relevant third parties; and
- The *Human Rights Act 2004*.

## Charges

Processing charges are not applicable to this request.

## Disclosure Log

Under section 28 of the FOI Act, CHS maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. The scope of your access application, my decision and documents released to you will be published in the disclosure log not less than three days but not more than 10 days after the date of this decision. Your personal contact details will not be published.

<https://www.health.act.gov.au/about-our-health-system/freedom-information/disclosure-log>.

## Ombudsman review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the FOI Act. You have the right to seek Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is published in ACT Health's disclosure log, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

If you wish to request a review of my decision you may write to the Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman

GPO Box 442

CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: [ACTFOI@ombudsman.gov.au](mailto:ACTFOI@ombudsman.gov.au)

Website: [ombudsman.act.gov.au](http://ombudsman.act.gov.au)

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) review

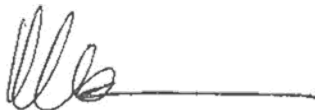
Under section 84 of the Act, if a decision is made under section 82(1) on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision. Further information may be obtained from the ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal  
Allara House  
15 Constitution Avenue  
GPO Box 370  
Canberra City ACT 2601  
Telephone: (02) 6207 1740  
<http://www.acat.act.gov.au/>

**Further assistance**

Should you have any queries in relation to your request, please do not hesitate to contact the FOI Coordinator on (02) 5124 9831 or email [HealthFOI@act.gov.au](mailto:HealthFOI@act.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jo Morris', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr Jo Morris (PhD)  
Executive Director  
Division of Rehabilitation, Aged and Community Services  
University of Canberra Hospital

13 September 2023





1756728	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-04-18	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	1	1
1758990	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-04-24	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	2	2
1767974	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-05-03	123452	Duoderm extra thin 10x10cm	2	2
1761760	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-05-03	123452	Duoderm extra thin 10x10cm	2	0
1761760	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-05-03	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	1	1
1764479	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-05-10	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	2	2
1767271	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-05-17	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	4	4
1767277	64332	Y0700	Ambulatory Clinic Belconnen CHC	2023-05-17	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	2	2
1771797	64332	Y0700	Ambulatory Clinic Belconnen CHC	2023-05-31	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	2	2
1780386	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-06-21	123452	Duoderm extra thin 10x10cm	1	1
1779319	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-06-21	123452	Duoderm extra thin 10x10cm	1	0
1779323	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-06-21	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	1	1
1784452	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-07-05	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	2	2
1787016	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-07-12	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	3	3
1788784	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-07-17	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	3	3
1792262	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-07-26	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	2	2
1797438	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-08-09	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	2	2
1799982	64332	Y0103	Continuing Care Nursing Team Belconnen CHC	2023-08-16	64428	Mepilex Border Sacrum 16x20cm	3	3