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16 July 2019

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RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10131

I refer to your email dated 24 June 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Clarified as being for the last six months.

1. **Have any people been harmed as a result of oncology and / or radiation wait times? If so, how many?**
2. **Are there any reports that indicate and / or detail harm to patients as a result of oncology service wait times or radiation wait times? Can you supply those report(s)?**

If harm had occurred it would be captured via our Safety1st reporting processes. We can find no incidents reported of people who have been harmed as a result of oncology and/or radiation wait times since January this year.

3. **Have any reports been provided indicating patients are being compromised by wait times to access first treatment of first specialist appointment? Can you supply those reports?**

Please refer to response above. We can find nothing to indicate that a patient's health has been compromised by wait times to access first treatment or first specialist appointment.

4. **Have any of your staff raised concerns about the adverse effects on patients due to waiting times?**

Our staff are very aware of the need to see patients within clinical guidelines and continue to monitor waiting times closely. Waiting times are often discussed, this is to ensure we see our patients within guidelines. There has not been a concern raised about adverse effects regarding specific patients due to waiting times – rather an awareness in general, not linked to a specific patient.

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Canterbury DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely



Carolyn Gullery
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support