

# Canterbury

District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora o Waitaha

## CORPORATE OFFICE

Level 1  
32 Oxford Terrace  
Christchurch Central  
**CHRISTCHURCH 8011**

Telephone: 0064 3 364 4160  
Fax: 0064 3 364 4165  
[carolyn.gullery@cdhb.health.nz](mailto:carolyn.gullery@cdhb.health.nz)

31 July 2018

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

### RE Official information request CDHB 9880

We refer to your email dated 20 June 2018 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB.

1. **What is the average waiting time, as well as longest and shortest individual wait times, for an initial appointment with the following specialists – oncologists, neurologists, cardiologists and gynaecologists –over the last six months?**

Table one:

Health Specialty	Shortest Wait (days)	Average Wait (days)	Longest Wait (days)
Oncology	0	10	48**
Neurology	0	38	163
Cardiology	0	19	228
Gynaecology	0	63	256

**\*Note:** The maximum wait times for Oncology are for the following patients: Those referred from Southern DHB for brachytherapy treatment; the FSA appointment is coordinated with the availability of treatment to save the patient having to do two separate trips. Those referred to both medical and radiation oncology; patients are not seen by the Radiation Oncologist until they are on their last cycle of chemotherapy and would be due for radiation treatment within six weeks.

2. **What percentage of patients arriving at the emergency department are admitted, discharged or transferred within six hours - over the last six months and the last six weeks?**

The percentage of patients arriving at the Christchurch Hospital Emergency Department who are admitted, discharged or transferred within six hours; over the last six months and the last six weeks is as follows:

- Six months – Jan 2018 to June 2018 = 95%
- Six weeks ending 29/06/2018 = 94%

### 3. What percentage of hospital beds were occupied for each of the last six months?

Occupancy rates for our main hospitals are shown in **Table two** (below). Note that these figures exclude day stay, maternity (including NICU), aged residential, and emergency beds.

**Table two:**

Hospital	Physical Beds	Average Occupancy Jan to Jun 2018	Maximum Occupancy Jan to Jun 2018
Ashburton	48	65%	94%
Burwood	286	70%	80%
Christchurch	666	72%	90%
Hillmorton*	142	101%	113%
TMPH*	53	99%	123%

\*The results for Hillmorton and The Princess Margaret Hospital (TPMH) include patients under care.

Occupancy at Christchurch hospital is monitored mainly on a resourced bed basis, this is contained in **Table three** (below). Note that this excludes day stay, maternity (including NICU), childrens, gynaecological, ICU and emergency inpatient beds.

**Table three:**

Hospital	Average Resourced Beds	Average Occupancy Jan to Jun 2018	Maximum Occupancy Jan to Jun 2018
Christchurch	470	87%	101%

### 4. What percentage of people referred to mental health services were seen within three weeks? What was the average, longest and shortest wait times? Could this be broken down into age groups 0-19 years, 19-64 years and 65+ years over the last six months?

In all, 76.2% of people referred for mental health services were seen within three weeks. Waiting time clusters for the age cohort groups 0-19, 20-64 and 65+ years.

Please refer to **Table four** (below) for the most up to date Canterbury DHB Mental Health non-urgent waiting times information for April 2017 – March 2018 – *Report run 18/06/2018*.

**Table four:**

Waiting times by Age Cohort	Age 0-19 Years Old	Age 20-64 Years Old	Age 65+ Years
<= 3 weeks	65.9% (1251 people)	84% (2040 people)	95% (38 people)
3 – 8 weeks	25.8% (490 people)	11% (267 people)	2.5 % (1 person)
>8 weeks	8.3% (158 people)	5% (121 people)	2.5% (1 person)
Total	100% (1899 people)	100% (2428 people)	100% (40 people)

**Please note:** The over-65 year age figures above represent only those clients being reported through PRIMHD – the Ministry of Health’s single national mental health and addiction information collection of service activity and outcomes data for health consumers.

Due to implementation of a new patient management system, not all 65+ year olds activity is currently being submitted in PRIMHD.

### 5. What was the average wait for elective surgery over the last year? What were the shortest and longest wait times?

Waiting times for our various elective surgical specialities delivered at the Canterbury DHB during the past six months are outlined below. We note that this excludes surveillance patients who are on a

planned schedule to be routinely endoscoped for periodic review over time (e.g.: surveillance colonoscopies for monitoring any occurrence or development of bowel cancers where there are known or exhibited risk factors for individual people).

Elective surgery includes: Cardiology, Cardiothoracic, Dental, General Surgery, Gynaecology, Maxillofacial, Neurosurgery, Ophthalmology, Orthopaedics, Otorhinolaryngology (ENT), Plastic Surgery, Specialist Paediatric Surgery, Urology, and Vascular.

Shortest wait time	-	< 7 days*
Average wait time	-	48 days
Longest wait time	-	258 days

**\*Note:** People on the elective wait list are not usually seen within seven days. If they are seen in less than seven days they would be classified as acute or arranged. The shortest wait time outside <7 days was 8 days.

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 ten working days after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely



Carolyn Gullery  
**Executive Director**  
**Planning, Funding & Decision Support**