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3 September 2021

9(2)(a)

**RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10680**

I refer to your email dated 5 August 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

- 1. Current employed radiation therapist (including therapists, assistants, students and those substantially employed as radiation therapists) FTE and headcount and a table showing how many radiation therapists are employed on each step of the scale.**

Please refer to **Appendix 1, Table one** (attached)

- 2. Current employed radiation therapists (including therapists, assistants, students and those substantially employed as radiation therapists) turnover broken down by classification group (1 July 2020 to 1 July 2021)**

Please refer to **Appendix 1, Table Two** (attached)

- 3. Vacancy rate (FTE) for radiation therapists.**

	<b>Vacancy Rate for Radiation Therapists</b>			
	1 Jul 20 - 30 Sept 20	1 Oct 20 - 31 Dec 20	1 Jan 21 - 31 Mar 21	1 Apr 21 - 30 Jun 21
Average Vacancy Rate(FTE)	1.7	3.1	3.6	2

Current vacancies: 1.0FTE Dosimetry Specialist Radiation Therapist  
1.0FTE Staff Radiation Therapist  
2.0FTE Staff Radiation Therapist (one year fixed term for Leave without Pay (LWOP)).

- 4. Numbers waiting for radiation oncology FSA as at 1 July 2021.**

There are 187 patients waiting for a First Specialist Assessment (FSA) with a Radiation Oncologist as of 13 August 2021\*

\* **Note:** We are unable to provide the data for 1 July 2021 due to current work with patient management system interfaces.

**5. Average waiting list between FSA and first radiotherapy treatment.**

The average number of patients waiting for radiation treatment over the last three months is 187. 115 of these are ready to start their treatment, the remainder are Category D patients who must start on a certain date. Eg after hormones or chemotherapy.

**6. Radiotherapy treatment sessions provided per month for months July 2020 to July 2021.**

Christchurch Oncology	2020						2021					
	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Number of Patients	177	183	175	164	177	180	154	165	184	160	201	201
Number of sessions	2247	1978	2138	1986	1830	1845	1652	1706	2137	1820	1915	1814

**7. Number of radiation therapy employees recognised as specialist and a list of what specialisms are currently recognised.**

Dosimetry Specialist Radiation Therapist: 4  
Research, Quality and Development Radiation Therapist: 1  
Brachytherapy Specialist: 1

**8. Average and median sick leave days taken per radiation therapist (including therapists, assistants, students and those substantially employed as radiation therapists) 1 July 2020 to 1 July 2021**

Average: 10.4 days, **note** there are three staff members who have taken 165 sick days between them, which means the median is much lower at 5.6 days.

**9. Numbers of hypofractionated treatments, normal fractionated standard treatments and stereotactic treatments completed each month for the all months between July 2020 and July 2021.**

Please refer to **Appendix 1, Table three** (attached)

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



Tracey Maisey  
**Executive Director**  
**Planning, Funding & Decision Support**

**Table one:** Radiation therapist (including therapists, assistants, students and those substantially employed as radiation therapists) FTE and headcount and showing how many radiation therapists are employed on each step of the scale.

Grade title	Grade step	Headcount	FTE
IEA APEX Radiation Therapists	14	1	1.0
APEX Radiation Therapists	12	2	1.9
IEA APEX Radiation Therapists	11	1	1.0
APEX Radiation Therapists	11	1	1.0
APEX Radiation Therapists	10	12	10.7
IEA APEX Radiation Therapists	10	1	1.0
APEX Radiation Therapists	9	3	2.4
IEA APEX Radiation Therapists	9	1	0.4
APEX Radiation Therapists	8	9	5.8
IEA APEX Radiation Therapists	8	1	0.4
APEX Radiation Therapists	7	10	6.4
IEA APEX Radiation Therapists	7	4	1.8
APEX Radiation Therapists	6	3	3.0
IEA APEX Radiation Therapists	6	1	0.0
APEX Radiation Therapists	5	2	2.0
APEX Radiation Therapists	4	1	1.0
APEX Radiation Therapists	3	1	1.0
APEX Radiation Therapists	2	2	2.0
APEX Radiation Therapists	1	3	3.0
IEA APEX Radiation Therapy Asst	5	1	0.8
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>60</b>	<b>46.5*</b>

- FTE includes staff on parental leave or LWOP and two Oncology Informatics Staff.
- Budgeted FTE is 40.0FTE Radiation Therapists

**Table two:** Current employed radiation therapists (including therapists, assistants, students and those substantially employed as radiation therapists) turnover broken down by classification group (1 July 2020 to 1 July 2021)

Job Title	Resigned	Resigned from Leave Without Pay
Radiation Therapist	3	1
Radiation Therapist Supervisor	1	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>

**Table three:** Numbers of hypofractionated treatments, normal fractionated standard treatments and stereotactic treatments completed each month for the all months between July 2020 and July 2021.

Treatment Type	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
<b>Hypofractionated (Bone Metastases, 8Gy/1#)</b>	32	44	47	38	39	53	23	35	34	29	57	51	482
<b>Hypofractionated (Radical)</b>	44	40	38	36	28	36	34	30	47	36	42	39	450
<b>Standard (Palliative and Radical)</b>	81	80	80	91	96	88	73	73	83	85	75	84	989
<b>Stereotactic</b>	2	5	3	3	5	5	4	5	5	3	10	3	53

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