

## CORPORATE OFFICE

Level 2  
32 Oxford Terrace  
Christchurch Central  
**CHRISTCHURCH 8011**

Telephone: 0064 3 364 4134  
[Kathleen.Smithram@cdhb.health.nz](mailto:Kathleen.Smithram@cdhb.health.nz)

13 June 2022

9(2)(a)



### RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10858

I refer to your email dated 27 April 2022 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

#### Time frame of request:

**Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 Feb 2022.**

**Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 Feb 2017.**

#### Please note:

Patients are often not referred for a specific condition as you have outlined. They will often be referred for the presenting symptoms and after a specialist assessment and diagnosis will be deemed appropriate for surgery.

Therefore, the data in the tables works backwards from the patient treatment to the associated referral and assessment rather than forwards from the referral.

1. **Please provide the length of time for patients on the waiting list who were referred by their GP to Specialist in your district (incl. count of events and average wait days) for the following:**
  - a. **Hip replacement**
  - b. **Knee replacement**
  - c. **Hysterectomy (or general gynae)**
  - d. **Breast reconstruction**
  - e. **Gall bladder**
  - f. **CT/MRI/PET scan**
  - g. **Colonoscopy**

Please refer to **Appendix 1 – Tables one and two** (attached) for details of patients on the elective surgical waiting list referred by GP.

**Note** Patients, in general, are not referred by their GP for the above procedures; please refer to our notes at the beginning of our response.

2. Please provide the length of time for patients on the waiting list, who are awaiting surgery in your district (incl. count of events and average wait days) for the following:
  - a. Hip replacement
  - b. Knee replacement
  - c. Hysterectomy
  - d. Breast reconstruction
  - e. Gall bladder
  - f. CT/MRI/PET scan.

Please refer to Appendix 1 – Tables three and four (attached)

3. Could you please provide the average wait time for patients being treated with the following cancers: (include count of events and avg days)
  - a. Lung
  - b. Breast
  - c. Cervical
  - d. Bowel
  - e. Prostate
  - f. Skin

Please refer to Appendix 1 – Tables five and six (attached)

4. Please feel free to provide any explanation or clarification which will help me understand the above data.

Please refer to our notes at the beginning of our response.

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

You may, under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act, seek a review of our decision to withhold information by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://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 Canterbury DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely



Ralph La Salle  
Senior Manager, OIAs  
Canterbury DHB & West Coast DHB

## 10858 Appendix 1

**Table one – Question 1 – Patients on Elective surgical waiting list referred by GP – 1/03/2021 to 28/02/2022**

	Patients treated from Elective waitlist	Average Waited Days
breast reconstruction	17	110
colonoscopy	175	49
gall bladder	251	77
hip replacement	540	84
hysterectomy	206	85
knee replacement	498	94
Radiology CT	4143	17
Radiology MRI	63	55
Radiology PET	486	7

**Table two – Patients on Elective surgical waiting list referred by GP – 1/03/2016 to 28/02/2017**

	Patients treated from Elective waitlist	Average Waited Days
breast reconstruction	This data not available as at this time we were using a different patient management system. This was not as comprehensive as our current system.	
colonoscopy		
gall bladder		
hip replacement		
hysterectomy		
knee replacement		
Radiology CT	2139	15
Radiology MRI	100	74
Radiology PET	387	7

**Note: The two Tables (above) are a subset of Tables three and four (below).**

**Table three: Question 2 – Elective waitlist - 1/03/2021 to 28/02/2022**

	Patients treated from Elective waitlist	Average Waited Days
breast reconstruction	41	221
gall bladder	361	77
hip replacement	705	83
hysterectomy	478	69
knee replacement	680	95
Radiology CT	56858	16
Radiology MRI	15970	51
Radiology PET	486	7

**Table four: Question 2 - Elective waitlist - 1/03/2016 to 28/02/2017**

	Patients treated from Elective waitlist	Average Waited Days
breast reconstruction	83	198
gall bladder	398	63
hip replacement	729	64
hysterectomy	98	75
knee replacement	609	76
Radiology CT	36125	15
Radiology MRI	10259	58
Radiology PET	387	7

**Table five: Question 3 – Cancer wait time - 1/03/2021 to 28/02/2022**

	Patients treated	Average Waited Days
Lung	51	34
Breast	316	23
Cervical	58	32
Bowel	256	27
Prostate	155	65
Skin <sup>1</sup>	91	12

**Table six – Question 3 - Cancer wait time - 1/03/2016 to 28/02/2017**

	Patients treated	Average Waited Days
Lung	49	18
Breast	279	21
Cervical	24	18
Bowel	241	34
Prostate	87	58
Skin <sup>1</sup>	289	36

**Note<sup>1</sup>:** Skin cancer volumes have dropped between the periods due to these procedures being carried out increasingly in different locations other than theatre for skin treatment/procedures, this would include community and outpatient clinics.

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT