

# Canterbury

District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora o Waitaha

## CORPORATE OFFICE

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### RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10586

I refer to your email dated 9 April 2021 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

- 1. In the past 12 months, what proportion of your DHB patients that were referred to a waiting list by a surgeon, for a joint replacement, were accepted onto the list and got surgery?**

Patients are not accepted on our surgical waiting list for major joint replacement until after they have been assessed at outpatient clinics to determine clinical threshold and course of treatment, and the patient is both accepting of the recommended treatment and is fit to undergo surgery. As such, all patients who are referred for major joint surgery are 'accepted' onto surgery lists.

In 2020, there were 758 people provided surgery for a major joint replacement (excluding revisions and reconstructions). **Note** that activity in 2020 was impacted by COVID.

- 2. In 2017 what proportion of your DHB patients that were referred to a waiting list by a surgeon, for a joint replacement, were accepted onto the list and got surgery?**

Patients are not accepted on our surgical waiting list for major joint replacement until after they have been assessed at outpatient clinics to determine clinical threshold and course of treatment, and the patient is both accepting of the recommended treatment and is fit to undergo surgery. As such, all patients who are referred for major joint surgery are 'accepted' onto surgery lists.

In 2017, there were 925 people provided surgery for a major joint replacement (excluding revisions and reconstructions).

**3. Is the DHB able to comment on whether there are enough GPs in the region?**

For the Official Information Act to apply the information requested must be held by the agency concerned. There is no obligation on the agency to form an opinion or create information to answer a request.

Consequently, the Official Information Act does not require an agency to provide commentary or an explanation around information requested.

We are therefore declining to form an opinion or create information to answer your request.

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  
**Acting Executive Director**  
**Planning, Funding & Decision Support**