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28 April 2020

9(2)(a)

RE: OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST CDHB 10279

I refer to your email dated 24 February 2020 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB.

- 1. The number of patients currently on the DHB's ophthalmology wait list (as at February 1, 2020)**
- 2. A breakdown of how long these patients have been waiting for appointments -- broken down by the time between the initial referral and first appointment, and those waiting for/overdue for follow-up appointments (as at February 1, 2020)**

Please refer to **Table one** (below) for the breakdown of the wait list – Outpatient new. **Table two** (overleaf) for Outpatient – Follow-up and **Table three** (overleaf) for Admitting (inpatient) waitlist.

Table one: Outpatient new (as at 22/4/2020)

Outpatient - New	
0-30 days	209
31-60 days	295
61-90 days	260
91-120 days	213
121-150 days	93
151-180 days	24
6m-12m	27
1-2 year	9
over 2 years	0
Total	1130

Table two: Outpatient follow-up. (as at 22/4/2020)

Outpatient - Follow up	not overdue	overdue	Total
0-30 days	2360	111	2471
31-60 days	1288	163	1451
61-90 days	992	173	1165
91-120 days	739	213	952
121-150 days	632	317	949
151-180 days	434	190	624
6m-12m	938	913	1851
1-2 year	368	546	914
over 2 years	40	108	148
Total:	7791	2734	10525

The effects of the Mosque attacks (15 March 2019), burst pipes causing flooding in the Outpatient Building (29 March 2019), loss of Ophthalmologists and over 260+ days of industrial action are all having continuing effects on the First Specialist Assessment (FSA) and Follow up waitlists.

Table three: Admitting (inpatient) waitlist (as at 22/4/2020)

Admitting	
0-30 days	116
31-60 days	197
61-90 days	86
91-120 days	120
121-150 days	60
151-180 days	40
6m-12m	22
1-2 year	7
Total	648

Please note: The data in the tables above does not include patients that sit within the Diabetic Retinal Screening Programme.

3. The number of patients referred/transferred from the DHB's ophthalmology service to private providers or other outside contractors, broken down by calendar year from 2008-2019

Please refer to **Table four** (below) for the number of patients Outsourced and Outplaced from Canterbury DHB Ophthalmology Service by year 2008 – 2019.

Table four Number of patients outsourced and outplaced by Canterbury DHB Ophthalmology Service

Calendar years	Outsourced
2008	1478
2009	1219
2010	678
2011	999
2012	1263
2013	1131
2014	1145
2015	1154
2016	1203
2017	1498
2018	1474
2019	1781
Total	15023

4. The number of dedicated clinics (including, but not exclusive to: catch-up clinics, weekend and evening clinics) over and above held by the DHB broken down by calendar year

There were 24 additional clinics held during 2019 and there have not been any additional clinics held to date in 2020.

To provide this information prior to 2019 would require a substantial amount of time and resource. We are therefore declining to do this pursuant to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act.

5. The number of adverse events recorded by the DHB due to ophthalmology delays

To provide this information specifically related to 'adverse events due to delays' would require a substantial amount of time and resource. We do not have a specific heading in our Incident Management System for 'delay to treatment' and would need to go through the data manually to answer your question for calendar years 2008 – 2019. We are therefore declining a response to this question pursuant to section 18(f) of the Official Information Act.

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; 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



Carolyn Gullery
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support