

29 June 2022

Dear 

**Re: Official Information Act**

I am responding on behalf of Taranaki District Health Board (DHB) to your OIA request of 25 May 2022. You have requested the following information:

1. *The average wait time to see an oncologist after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 1* in the *Appendix*.

2. *The longest and shortest wait time to see an oncologist after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 2* in the *Appendix*.

3. *The average wait time for cancer surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 3* in the *Appendix*.

4. *The longest and shortest wait time for cancer surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 4* in the *Appendix*.

Please note:

Patients who have acute surgery via an ED presentation will have a retrospective FCT referral entered as the FSA appointment is done as part of the care provided in relation to the emergency presentation. Hence the wait time is 0.

5. *The average wait time to see a cardiologist after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 5* in the *Appendix*.

6. *The longest and shortest wait time to see a cardiologist after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 6* in the *Appendix*.

7. *The average wait time for heart surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please note:

Heart surgeries are not performed in Taranaki DHB and 99% of our patients are transferred to Waikato and other % to Auckland. Hence, unable to determine when patient received surgery.

8. *The longest and shortest wait time for heart surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please note:

Heart surgeries are not performed in Taranaki DHB and 99% of our patients are transferred to Waikato and other % to Auckland. Hence, unable to determine when patient received surgery

9. *The average wait time to see an orthopaedic surgeon after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 7* in the *Appendix*.

10. *The longest and shortest wait time to see an orthopaedic surgeon after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 8* in the *Appendix*.

11. *The average wait time for orthopaedic surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 9* in the *Appendix*.

12. *The longest and shortest wait time for orthopaedic surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 10* in the *Appendix*.

13. *The average wait time for a gynaecologist appointment after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP for the last five years between 2018 to this year to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 11* in the *Appendix*.

14. *The longest and shortest wait time for a gynaecologist appointment after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 12* in the *Appendix*.

15. *The average wait time for gynaecological surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 13* in the *Appendix*.

16. *The longest and shortest wait time for gynaecological surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 14* in the *Appendix*.

17. *The average wait time for a urologist appointment after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 15* in the *Appendix*.

18. *The longest and shortest wait time for a urologist appointment after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 16* in the *Appendix*.

19. *The average wait time for urology surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 17* in the *Appendix*.

20. *The longest and shortest wait time for urology surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 18* in the *Appendix*.

21. *The average wait time for a respiratory specialist appointment/or general medicine specialist for respiratory problems after a referral from a GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 19* in the *Appendix*.

22. *The longest and shortest wait time for a respiratory specialist appointment/or general medicine specialist for respiratory problems after a referral from a GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 20* in the *Appendix*.

23. *The average wait time for respiratory surgery after a First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please note:

Respiratory surgeries are not performed in Taranaki DHB and 99% of our patients are transferred to Waikato and other % to Auckland. Hence, unable to determine when patient received surgery.

24. *The longest and shortest wait time for a respiratory surgery after a First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.*

Please note:

Respiratory surgeries are not performed in Taranaki DHB and 99% of our patients are transferred to Waikato and other % to Auckland. Hence, unable to determine when patient received surgery.

25. *The average wait time for a patient visiting the emergency department, for the last five years from 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 21* in the *Appendix*.

26. *The longest and shortest wait time for a patient visiting the emergency department for the last five years from 2018 to this year to date.*

Please see *Table 22* in the *Appendix*.

Please note: 69 records have been omitted from calculations during the period 2018 to 2022 w.r.t to data quality issues that business is in process of corrective work.

27. *All reports discussing hospital waiting times and emergency department delays, dated between January 2021 to date, held by the DHB.*

28. *All reports discussing increasing patient transfers between hospitals under the new Health New Zealand model, between January 2021 to date, held by the DHB.*

For questions 27 and 28, we are unable to provide these reports.

I trust the above information answers your OIA request.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Sheffield". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katy Sheffield  
**Acting Chief Operating Officer**

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## **APPENDIX**

**Table 1 - The average wait time to see an oncologist after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Average Wait Time In days</b>
2018	18
2019	24
2020	30
2021	24
2022	5

**Table 2 - The longest and shortest wait time to see an oncologist after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Longest Wait Time In days</b>	<b>Shortest Wait Time In days</b>
2018	63	1
2019	49	1
2020	55	13
2021	63	7
2022	8	2

**Table 3 - The average wait time for cancer surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Average Wait Time in days</b>
2018	31
2019	44
2020	37
2021	42
2022	35

**Table 4 - The longest and shortest wait time for cancer surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Longest Wait Time in days	Shortest Wait Time in days
2018	150	0
2019	355	0
2020	201	0
2021	279	0
2022	96	6

**Table 5 - The average wait time to see a cardiologist after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Average Wait Time in Days
2018	80
2019	118
2020	149
2021	95
2022	82

**Table 6 - The longest and shortest wait time to see a cardiologist after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Longest Wait Time in Days	Shortest Wait Time in Days
2018	258	7
2019	328	6
2020	708	0
2021	390	0
2022	598	6

**Table 7 - The average wait time to see an orthopaedic surgeon after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Average Wait Time in Days
2018	96
2019	106
2020	143
2021	160
2022	149

**Table 8 - The longest and shortest wait time to see an orthopaedic surgeon after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Longest Wait Time in Days	Shortest Wait Time in Days
2018	204	0
2019	287	5
2020	361	2
2021	537	9
2022	642	7

**Table 9 - The average wait time for orthopaedic surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Average Wait Time in Days
2018	163
2019	158
2020	170
2021	108
2022	62

**Table 10 - The longest and shortest wait time for orthopaedic surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Longest Wait Time in Days	Shortest Wait Time in Days
2018	1094	1
2019	893	1
2020	560	1
2021	364	1
2022	139	2

**Table 11 - The average wait time for a gynaecologist appointment after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP for the last five years between 2018 to this year to this year to date.**

Year	Average Wait Time in Days
2018	63
2019	87
2020	114
2021	88
2022	104

**Table 12 - The longest and shortest wait time for a gynaecologist appointment after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Longest Wait Time in Days	Shortest Wait Time in Days
2018	173	0
2019	267	0
2020	399	0
2021	680	0
2022	752	0

**Table 13 - The average wait time for gynaecological surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Average Wait Time in Days
2018	204
2019	230
2020	159
2021	81
2022	40

**Table 14 - The longest and shortest wait time for gynaecological surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Longest Wait Time in Days	Shortest Wait Time in Days
2018	1388	2
2019	1062	2
2020	795	4
2021	453	2
2022	138	2

**Table 15 - The average wait time for a urologist appointment after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Average Wait Time in Days
2018	78
2019	95
2020	111
2021	113
2022	114



**Table 16 - The longest and shortest wait time for a urologist appointment after a referral has been sent from the patient's GP for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Longest Wait Time In days	Shortest Wait Time in days
2018	1388	2
2019	1062	2
2020	876	4
2021	455	2
2022	138	2

**Table 17 - The average wait time for urology surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Average Wait Time in Days
2018	75
2019	107
2020	115
2021	88
2022	44

**Table 18 - The longest and shortest wait time for urology surgery after a patient's First Specialist Appointment (FSA), for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Longest Wait Time in Days	Shortest Wait Time in Days
2018	370	1
2019	538	1
2020	621	1
2021	461	4
2022	123	0

**Table 19 - The average wait time for a respiratory specialist appointment/or general medicine specialist for respiratory problems after a referral from a GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Average Wait Time in Days
2018	54
2019	92
2020	91
2021	59
2022	53

**Table 20 - The longest and shortest wait time for a respiratory specialist appointment/or general medicine specialist for respiratory problems after a referral from a GP, for the last five years between 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Longest Wait Time in Days	Shortest Wait Time in Days
2018	146	2
2019	365	1
2020	371	2
2021	291	2
2022	214	5

**Table 21 - The average wait time for a patient visiting the emergency department, for the last five years from 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Average Wait Time in Hours
2018	1.16
2019	1.16
2020	1.16
2021	1.27
2022	1.22

**Table 22 - The longest and shortest wait time for a patient visiting the emergency department for the last five years from 2018 to this year to date.**

Year	Longest Wait Time in hours	Shortest Wait Time in hours
2018	19	0
2019	20	0
2020	16	0
2021	17	0
2022	19	0