

20 March 2019

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Re: Official Information Act**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

I am responding on behalf of Hauora Tairāwhiti (Tairāwhiti DHB) to your OIA Request of 13 March 2019 regarding cancer wait times.

**Our response to your request:**

**1. The average wait time for patients referred to the DHB with a high suspicion of cancer (all tumour streams) to receive a FSA (first specialist assessment), including the shortest and longest individual wait time, month by month for the last 12 months.**

*Hauora Tairāwhiti can supply data by quarter not month.*

KPI - 14 calendar days from receipt of referral to FSA - by referred health specialty

Referred Health Specialty	FY2018 - Q3			FY2018 - Q4			FY2019 - Q1			FY2019 - Q2			Total - All Quarters		
	Met	Not Met	Total	Met	Not Met	Total	Met	Not Met	Total	Met	Not Met	Total	Met	Not Met	Total
Anaesthesiology	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Breast Care Centre	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Gastroenterology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1
General Medicine	4	1	5	3	1	4	1	-	1	3	3	6	11	5	16
General Surgery	5	2	7	6	4	10	6	1	7	5	4	9	22	11	33
Gynaecology	1	1	2	3	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	2	6	1	7
Haematology	-	1	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
Maxillo-Facial Surgery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1
Oncology	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	2
Otorhinolaryngology (ENT)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	2	3	-	3
Plastic Surgery (excluding burns)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1
Radiotherapy	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	2
Respiratory Medicine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1
Urology	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	2	1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>75</b>

**2. The average wait time for cancer patients (for all tumour streams) to receive their first treatment (or management), including the shortest and longest individual wait times, month by month for the last 12 months. For your information, this request is designed to work out how long people are waiting for treatment, once it has been determined they have or are likely to have cancer.**

**MAR 2018**

TUMOUR	DTT	1 <sup>st</sup> Treatment
URO	22 Mar 2018	22 Mar 2018
LUN	13 Feb 2018	20 Mar 2018
GIL	01 Mar 2018	13 Mar 2018

URO	15 Mar 2018	15 Mar 2018
BRE	20 Feb 2018	07 Mar 2018
BRE	26 Feb 2018	28 Mar 2018
GIL	01 Mar 2018	14 Mar 2018
GIL	20 Mar 2018	20 Mar 2018
HAE	14 Mar 2018	15 Mar 2018
URO	21 Mar 2018	21 Mar 2018
GIU	22 Mar 2018	22 Mar 2018
LUN	23 Mar 2018	26 Mar 2018
GIU	30 Mar 2018	30 Mar 2018
BRE	26 Feb 2018	28 Mar 2018

#### APR 2018

TUMOUR	DTT	1 <sup>st</sup> Treatment
URO	16 Jan 2018	09 Apr 2018
URO	09 Jan 2018	09 Apr 2018
GIU	09 Apr 2018	17 Apr 2018
BRE	12 Mar 2018	11 Apr 2018
HAE	12 Apr 2018	17 Apr 2018
BRE	09 Apr 2018	18 Apr 2018
HEN	09 Apr 2018	10 Apr 2018
URO	23 Apr 2018	23 Apr 2018
GIL	12 Apr 2018	16 Apr 2018
GIU	25 Apr 2018	25 Apr 2018

#### MAY 2018

TUMOUR	DTT	1 <sup>st</sup> Treatment
URO	27 Apr 2018	08 May 2018
LUN	07 May 2018	28 May 2018

GIU	01 May 2018	01 May 2018
BRE	16 Apr 2018	02 May 2018
HAE	14 May 2018	15 May 2018

### JUN 2018

TUMOUR	DTT	1 <sup>st</sup> Treatment
URO	20 Jun 2018	20 Jun 2018
URO	26 Mar 2018	20 Jun 2018
URO	04 Apr 2018	20 Jun 2018
SKI	12 Jun 2018	28 Jun 2018
HAE	08 Jun 2018	08 Jun 2018
BRE	25 May 2018	11 Jun 2018
NEU	13 Jun 2018	19 Jun 2018
HAE	14 Jun 2018	20 Jun 2018

### JULY 2018

TUMOUR	DTT	1 <sup>st</sup> Treatment
URO	05 Jul 2018	05 Jul 2018
GYN	09 Jul 2018	17 Jul 2018
LUN	04 Jul 2018	04 Jul 2018
HAE	11 Jul 2018	13 Jul 2018
BRE	26 Jun 2018	18 Jul 2018
BRE	04 Jul 2018	18 Jul 2018
GYN	03 Jul 2018	24 Jul 2018
BRE	26 Jun 2018	25 Jul 2018
NEU	23 Jul 2018	29 Jul 2018
URO	29 Jun 2018	31 Jul 2018
URO	11 Jun 2018	31 Jul 2018

### AUG 2018

TUMOUR	DTT	1 <sup>st</sup> Treatment
--------	-----	---------------------------

HEN	27 Jul 2018	14 Aug 2018
GYN	09 Aug 2018	20 Aug 2018
GIL	09 Aug 2018	09 Aug 2018
NEU	21 Aug 2018	22 Aug 2018
GIU	23 Aug 2018	23 Aug 2018
HAE	07 Aug 2018	23 Aug 2018
GIU	08 Aug 2018	08 Aug 2018
URO	24 Apr 2018	08 Aug 2018

### SEPT 2018

TUMOUR	DTT	1 <sup>st</sup> Treatment
URO	15 Aug 2018	03 Sep 2018
GIL	02 Sep 2018	02 Sep 2018
GIU	26 Sep 2018	26 Sep 2018
URO	20 Sep 2018	25 Sep 2018

### OCT 2018

TUMOUR	DTT	1 <sup>st</sup> Treatment
LUN	05 Sep 2018	09 Oct 2018
GIL	25 Sep 2018	24 Oct 2018
URO	02 Oct 2018	02 Oct 2018
GYN	30 Oct 2018	31 Oct 2018
GIU	23 Oct 2018	23 Oct 2018

### NOV 2018

TUMOUR	DTT	1 <sup>st</sup> Treatment
HEN	05 Nov 2018	21 Nov 2018
GIL	06 Nov 2018	19 Nov 2018
GIL	23 Oct 2018	06 Nov 2018
BRE	26 Oct 2018	06 Nov 2018
LUN	02 Nov 2018	02 Nov 2018

GYN	07 Nov 2018	20 Nov 2018
GIL	05 Nov 2018	13 Nov 2018
BRE	09 Oct 2018	01 Nov 2018
URO	22 Aug 2018	08 Nov 2018
LUN	24 Oct 2018	12 Nov 2018
URO	03 Oct 2018	08 Nov 2018
GYN	18 Oct 2018	06 Nov 2018
URO	21 Nov 2018	21 Nov 2018
URO	29 Nov 2018	29 Nov 2018

## DEC 2018

TUMOUR	DTT	1 <sup>st</sup> Treatment
URO	01 Oct 2018	19 Dec 2018
URO	24 Sep 2018	18 Dec 2018
GIL	04 Dec 2018	12 Dec 2018
GIL	07 Dec 2018	18 Dec 2018
GIU	10 Dec 2018	26 Dec 2018
GIU	19 Dec 2018	19 Dec 2018
LUN	11 Dec 2018	31 Dec 2018
BRE	18 Dec 2018	24 Dec 2018
GIL	01 Dec 2018	01 Dec 2018
URO	24 Sep 2018	18 Dec 2018
URO	09 Nov 2018	19 Dec 2018

## JAN 2019

TUMOUR	DTT	1 <sup>st</sup> Treatment
URO	07 Jan 2019	30 Jan 2019
URO	24 Sep 2018	10 Jan 2019
LUN	07 Jan 2019	07 Jan 2019
URO	24 Jan 2019	24 Jan 2019
GIL	01 Jan 2019	01 Jan 2019

HAE	14 Jan 2019	15 Jan 2019
LUN	29 Jan 2019	29 Jan 2019

## FEB 2019

TUMOUR	DTT	1 <sup>st</sup> Treatment
URO	18 Jan 2019	14 Feb 2019
GIL	04 Feb 2019	26 Feb 2019
URO	04 Feb 2019	25 Feb 2019
GIU	25 Jan 2019	05 Feb 2019
GIU	19 Feb 2019	27 Feb 2019
BRE	18 Jan 2019	02 Feb 2019
NEU	08 Feb 2019	08 Feb 2019
HAE	20 Feb 2019	21 Feb 2019
BRE	17 Feb 2019	17 Feb 2019

#### 4. The number of people diagnosed with cancer after presenting to the emergency department, month by month for the last 12 months.

Hauora Tairāwhiti has no way of getting this data without an intensive and manual process. We have been collating this for our own information over the last few months so we are able to supply that.

Jan 2019 – 1 person with LGI attended ED and was diagnosed. 91 years old with dementia.

Dec 2018 – 2 people with UGI attended ED with acute symptoms. 1 person with breast cancer was brought in by whanau who noted a wound.

#### 5. A copy of the DHBs priority assessment protocol (I understand the name of this protocol varies between DHBs) relating to cancer, for each tumour stream.

The Ministry of Health has provisional tumour standards posted on its public website for services. These include protocols and timeframes for assessment of the many and varied aspects of considerations for patient physical and mental health well-being in respect of the various tumour streams. Copies of these may be viewed and downloaded at the following website address: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/national-cancer-programme/cancer-initiatives/review-national-tumour-standards>; The Ministry of Health is currently working alongside the sector to replace the provisional tumour standards with a new Standard of care for people affected by cancer.

Additionally, the Ministry of Health currently have two wait time targets for their measuring for Faster Cancer Treatment priority responsiveness to accessing services. The main one is the 62 Day Target, being the time from receipt of referral for High Suspicion of Cancer by the secondary or tertiary care facility to

the patients' first treatment point, which should be conducted within 62 days. The other second measure is the 31 Day Target which is the time from a Decision to Treat (DTT) to first treatment following clinical evaluation of the case and agreement with the patient on what course (or courses) of treatment they would like to follow, which once agreed and accepted, should ideally be conducted within 31 days. The 62 days target applies only to patients who meet the FCT criteria (e.g. are eligible for treatment and began their treatment in New Zealand) and who are triaged as urgent. Not all patients who meet the 31 days measure criteria meet the 62 days target criteria. All patients who qualify for the 62 days cohort, however, also qualify for the 31 days cohort. Further information about these targets may be viewed and downloaded at the Ministry's public website at the following website address:

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/national-cancer-programme/cancer-initiatives/faster-cancer-treatment>

If you are not satisfied with this response you may contact the Office of the Ombudsmen, phone 0800 802 602.

Please note this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Hauora Tairāwhiti DHB website. Your personal/identifying information will be redacted from any responses published.

If you feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Ngā mihi,

Briar Hunter  
Communications Advisor  
Hauora Tairāwhiti