

Friday, 29 October 2021

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██████████

**Re: Official Information Act Request – Infusion Services**

Kia ora ██████████

Thank you for your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982.

**The Hauora Tairāwhiti response is as follows:**

1. *What is the Medical Day-Stay (non-oncology) infusion capacity where capacity is defined as the maximum number of infusions that can occur at any given time?*

Hauora Tairāwhiti has 6 chairs, 1 bed & 1 side room available.

2. *Average number of infusions per week?*

Around 50 to 60 a week.

3. *Opening days & hours?*

Monday to Friday, 8 am to 4.30pm.

4. *Which products are most commonly infused (top ten)?*

- AC{ Adriamycin, doxorubicin, cyclophosphamide}
- FOLFIRI{fluorouracil, leucovorin irinotecan}
- Gemcitabine
- Rituximab
- Vincristine,
- Paclitaxel
- Docetaxel
- Etoposide
- Pemetrexed
- Pembroluzemab
- FOLFOX{ fluorouracil, oxalyplatin,}

5. *Does the DHB run satellite infusion services outside of its main hospitals? If so, in what locations?*

No, Hauora Tairāwhiti does not run satellite infusion services outside of Gisborne Hospital.

6. *How often (percentage of total patients) is travel assistance (eg buses, shuttles, taxis, or monetary assistance) to attend infusions provided to patients? What are the monthly costs?*

All those who meet the criteria are offered the option for travel assistance, however our systems do not [REDACTED] in this way that we are able to break it down in relation to travel assistance and infusion [REDACTED]

7. *How often do patients not attend infusion appointments as scheduled?*

Appointments are very rarely not attended.

8. *Are scheduled IV infusions ever provided outside of the Medical Day Stay Unit (eg General Medical Ward)? If so, on average, how many times a month would this occur?*

*IV infusion services are not provided outside of the Medical Day Stay Unit (Tui Te Ora)*

9. *What is the average cost of an infusion on the Medical Day Stay Unit vs the General Medical Ward?*

*Infusions are not available in other wards – as stated in question 8.*

10. *Does method of administration (eg IV vs sub-cutaneous) pose a barrier to treatment due to capacity constraints?*

No

11. *Is there a need for new medicines that are community or home-based as an alternative to infusions?*

No

12. *Are infusion bookings ever delayed due to capacity constraints? If so:*

- a. *How many days (on average) from the date an infusion is required to the date it is booked for?*
- b. *What is the longest period (in days) that an infusion has been delayed for in the past year?*
- c. *Over the past 12 months, how many patients have had an infusion delayed due to capacity constraints?*
- d. *How are bookings prioritised?*

No, bookings have not been delayed due to capacity constraints.

13. *What is the forecasted increase in infusion numbers over the next two years?*

No forecast of activity has yet been undertaken.

14. *Is the DHB planning to expand infusion capacity? If so:*

- a. *By how much?*
- b. *What is the timeframe for completion?*
- c. *Will capacity meet demand?*

Hauora Tairāwhiti has no plans at present to increase infusion capacity.

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

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Ngā mihi

**Jim Green**

Chief Executive  
Hauora Tairāwhiti