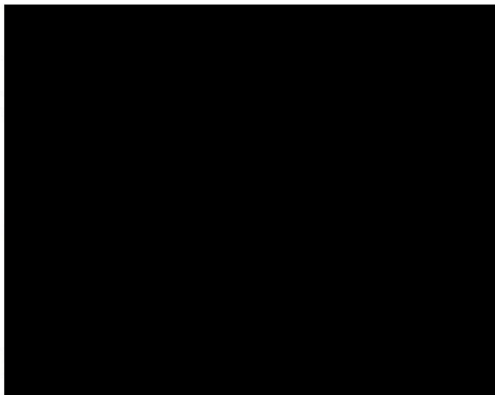




31 May 2022



Thank you for your email of 27 April 2022 for information relating to wait times to see a specialist, to have surgery or start treatment at Waikato District Health Board (DHB) facilities. Pursuant to the Official Information Act 1982, I enclose the information which is covered by your request.

Waikato Hospital and other DHBs nationally are operating in unprecedented times with the COVID-19 pandemic. Operating capacity for non-urgent planned care over the past two years has been significantly reduced at times to support redeployment of resource to focus on urgent and acute services.

1. Please provide the length of time for patients on the waiting list who were referred by their GP to Specialist in your district (incl. count of events and average wait days) for the following:

a) Hip replacement

i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

Referral Comment	Count of Events	Average of days waiting
Hip Replacement	64	169

ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

Referral Comment	Count of Events	Average of days waiting
Hip Replacement	60	114

b) Knee replacement

i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

Referral Comment	Count of Events	Average of days waiting
Knee Replacement	82	183

ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

Referral Comment	Count of Events	Average of days waiting
Knee Replacement	81	103

c) Hysterectomy

- i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

Referral Comment	Count of Events	Average of days waiting
Hysterectomy	60	113

- ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

Row Labels	Count of Events	Average of days waiting
Hysterectomy	48	113

d) Breast reconstruction

- i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

Count of Events	Average of days waiting
1194*	44

**Note these are referrals for a breast outpatient appointment and often the decision for breast reconstruction is an outcome of the appointment.*

- ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

Count of Events	Average of days waiting
1463*	52

**Note these are referrals for a breast outpatient appointment and often the decision for breast reconstruction is an outcome of the appointment.*

e) Gall bladder

- i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

Count of Events	Average of days waiting
38*	132

**Referral specifically states for gall bladder.*

- ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

Count of Events	Average of days waiting
23*	82

**Referral specifically states for gall bladder.*

f) CT / MRI / PET scan

Response

- The waiting times have been provided from the PET Scan data on all referrals received by the DHB for PET Scans.
- PET Scan referrals are made by DHB specialists and do not come directly from GPs.
- MRI scans are rarely recorded as being requested by GPs PETs never.

- i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

Referral Comment	Count of Events	Average of days waiting
PET Scans	621	18
CT Scans	1063	18
MRI Scans	1	7

- ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

Referral Comment	Count of Events	Average of days waiting
PET Scans	301	13
CT Scans	697	18
MRI Scans	1	12

g) Colonoscopy

- i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

Count of Events	Average of days waiting
205	124

- ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

Count of Events	Average of days waiting
193	77

2. Please provide the length of time for patients on the waiting list who are awaiting surgery in your district (incl. count of events and average wait days) for the following:

a) Hip replacement

- i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

Operation Description	Count of events	Average of days waiting
Total arthroplasty of hip, bilateral	15	155
Total arthroplasty of hip, unilateral	421	140

- ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

Operation Description	Count of events	Average of days waiting
Total arthroplasty of hip, bilateral	10	193
Total arthroplasty of hip, unilateral	293	154

b) Knee replacement

- i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

Operation Description	Count of events	Average of days waiting
Total arthroplasty of knee, bilateral	12	149
Total arthroplasty of knee, unilateral	413	167

- ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

Operation Description	Count of events	Average of days waiting
Total arthroplasty of knee, bilateral	24	198
Total arthroplasty of knee, unilateral	279	174

c) Hysterectomy

- i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

Operation Description	Count of events	Average of days waiting
Hysterectomy – includes vaginal, abdominal and laparoscopic hysterectomies	263	88

- ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

Operation Description	Count of events	Average of days waiting
Hysterectomy (includes vaginal, abdominal and laparoscopic hysterectomies)	161	81

d) Breast reconstruction

- i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

Procedure Description	Count of events	Average of days waiting
Breast reconstruction (includes reconstruction procedure on breast, reconstruction procedures on nipple and areola and reduction mammoplasty)	75	133

- ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

Procedure Description	Count of events	Average of days waiting
Breast reconstruction (includes reconstruction procedure on breast, reconstruction procedures on nipple and areola and reduction mammoplasty)	81	97

e) Gall bladder

- i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

Procedure Description	Count of events	Average of days waiting
Cholecystectomy	262	106
Endoscopic & percutaneous removal of calculus	2	34
Examination of gallbladder or biliary tract	69	81
Incision of gallbladder, biliary tract or sphincter of Oddi	41	31
Other excision procedures on gallbladder, bile ducts or sphincter of Oddi	2	16
Other repair of sphincter of Oddi, gallbladder or biliary tract	11	32

Procedure Description	Count of events	Average of days waiting
Removal and replacement of biliary stent	27	44
Stenting of biliary tract	16	15

ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

Procedure Description	Count of events	Average of days waiting
Cholecystectomy	272	98
Examination of gallbladder or biliary tract	75	75
Incision of gallbladder, biliary tract or sphincter of Oddi	76	46
Other repair of sphincter of Oddi, gallbladder or biliary tract	4	34
Removal and replacement of biliary stent	28	34
Stenting of biliary tract	16	5
Stoma of gallbladder or bile duct	3	60

f) CT / MRI / PET scan

Not applicable for this query.

3. Could you please provide the average wait time for patients being treated with the following cancers: (include count of events and average days)

Response

- To provide the data for waiting times for cancer treatment, Waikato DHB has used the data reported to the Ministry of Health / Te Aho Te Kahu for the Faster Cancer Treatment (FCT) indicators.
- The following two indicators that measure waiting times for cancer have been used to provide the number of patients treated and average waiting times for treatment as requested.
- The business rules as defined for the FCT indicators have been applied in providing the response.

62-day indicator:

- The maximum target length of time taken for a patient referred with a high-suspicion of cancer (without a confirmed pathological diagnosis of cancer at referral);
- Where the triaging clinician believes the patient needs to be seen within two weeks.
- We have used the exact definition for the 62-day indicator as published by the Ministry of Health (Faster Cancer Treatment Indicators -Business Rules and Data Definitions). The two conditions of being triaged as high suspicion of cancer and the timeframe to be seen for FSA in 2 weeks has to be met to be reported under the 62-day indicator. We use the triage priority of 1 to identify this criteria.

31-day indicator:

- The maximum target length of time a patient should have to wait from date of decision-to-treat to receive their first treatment (or other management) for cancer.
- The 31-day indicator includes all patients who receive their first cancer treatment, irrespective of how they were initially referred.

a) Lung

i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

FCT waiting time indicator	Count of events	Average of days waiting
62 day indicator	65	58
31 day indicator	179	9

ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

FCT waiting time indicator	Count of events	Average of days waiting
62 day indicator	79	45
31 day indicator	224	7

b) Breast

i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

FCT waiting time indicator	Count of events	Average of days waiting
62 day indicator	82	50
31 day indicator	231	23

ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

FCT waiting time indicator	Count of events	Average of days waiting
62 day indicator	71	39
31 day indicator	248	20

c) Cervical

i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

FCT waiting time indicator	Count of events	Average of days waiting
62 day indicator	1	84
31 day indicator	6	8

ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

FCT waiting time indicator	Count of events	Average of days waiting
62 day indicator	3	58
31 day indicator	13	21

d) Bowel

i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

Procedure Description	Count of events	Average of days waiting
62 day indicator	22	68
31 day indicator	227	18

ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

FCT waiting time indicator	Count of events	Average of days waiting
62 day indicator	31	51
31 day indicator	259	13

e) Prostrate

i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

FCT waiting time indicator	Count of events	Average of days waiting
62 day indicator	11	30
31 day indicator	173	25

ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

FCT waiting time indicator	Count of events	Average of days waiting
62 day indicator	2	17
31 day indicator	138	12

f) Skin

i) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022

FCT waiting time indicator	Count of events	Average of days waiting
62 day indicator	18	58
31 day indicator	107	21

ii) Covering a 12 month period from 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017

FCT waiting time indicator	Count of events	Average of days waiting
62 day indicator	25	47
31 day indicator	99	26

Waikato DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community understanding of how we are delivering publically-funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released.

Yours sincerely



Michelle Sutherland

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Waikato District Health Board