



01 July 2020

Dear,

Please find the response from Waikato DHB below in relation to your request received.

This request under the Official Information Act is in relation to Waikato District Health Board (WDHB) statistics and information for radiotherapy treatment, specifically in the 12-month period to 30 September 2019:

1) How many individual patients were treated at the WDHB with radiotherapy for cancer?

Waikato DHB provided external beam radiation therapy to 1422 patients during this period

2) How many individual radiotherapy treatments were provided to these cancer patients by the WDHB?

Waikato DHB provided 21470 individual external beam radiation therapy treatments to these patients during this period.

3) How many patients were referred to the WDHB to receive radiotherapy treatment?

Waikato DHB received 1593 radiotherapy patient referrals during this period.

Note: 1647 referrals for the first specialist appointment (FSA) were received between January and December 2019. Some patients have more than one referral during the specified time period.

4) How many patients referred to the WDHB to receive radiotherapy treatment waited four weeks or more to start their radiation treatment from decision to treat?

Zero

5) How many patients referred to the WDHB to receive radiotherapy treatment waited five weeks or more to start their radiation treatment from decision to treat?

Zero

6) How many patients referred to the WDHB to receive radiotherapy treatment waited six weeks or more to start their radiation treatment from decision to treat?

Zero

7) How many patients referred to the WDHB to receive radiotherapy treatment waited seven weeks or more to start their radiation treatment from decision to treat?

Zero

8) How many patients referred to the WDHB to receive radiotherapy treatment waited eight or more weeks to start their radiation treatment from decision to treat?



Zero

9) How many 'radical' patients referred to the WDHB to receive radiotherapy treatment waited more than 14 days to start their radiation treatment from decision to treat?

10) How many 'radical' patients referred to the WDHB to receive radiotherapy treatment waited more than 21 days to start their radiation treatment from decision to treat?

11) How many 'radical' patients referred to the WDHB to receive radiotherapy treatment waited more than 28 days to start their radiation treatment from decision to treat?

	Category B	Category C
More than 14 days to start their radiation treatment from decision to treat.	77	354
More than 21 days to start their radiation treatment from decision to treat.	16	265
More than 28 days to start their radiation treatment from decision to treat.	0	0

Category B patients: radical patients who should start treatment within 14 days of decision to treat

Category C patients: radical patients who should start treatment within 28 days of decision to treat

Please note

Questions 4-11 figures exclude patients who started over 4 weeks due to:

- a) Classified as a Category D patient (combined chemotherapy and radiation treatment as per treatment protocol)

Questions 4-11 figures exclude the 109 patients whose treatment was delayed due to

- a. patient choice
- b. clinical considerations (e.g. post-surgery wound healing)
- c. other management (e.g. brachytherapy before external beam radiation therapy)
- d. extraordinary circumstances (e.g. transport issue on way to treatment)

12) How many patients referred to the WDHB, who went on to receive radiotherapy treatment, received their first specialist consultation within four weeks?

13) How many patients referred to the WDHB, who went on to receive radiotherapy treatment, waited four weeks or more to receive their first specialist consultation?

14) How many patients referred to the WDHB, who went on to receive radiotherapy treatment, waited six weeks or more to receive their first specialist consultation?

15) How many patients referred to the WDHB, who went on to receive radiotherapy treatment, waited eight weeks or more to receive their first specialist consultation?

	Referral received date between Jan to Dec 2019
No. of patients referred to the Waikato DHB, who went on to receive radiotherapy treatment and received their first specialist consultation within four weeks	867
No. of patients referred to the Waikato DHB, who went on to receive radiotherapy treatment and waited between four and six weeks to receive their first specialist consultation	133
No. of patients referred to the Waikato DHB, who went on to receive radiotherapy treatment and waited between six and eight weeks or more to receive their first specialist consultation	18
No. of patients referred to the Waikato DHB, who went on to receive radiotherapy treatment and waited eight weeks or more to receive their first specialist consultation. <i>Note: this figure includes Category D patients most with breast cancer (61 patients) who are referred for radiotherapy first scheduled appointment (FSA) at the same time as medical oncology. The radiotherapy first scheduled appointment occurs after the patient has finished their chemotherapy which is approximately 3 months after the referral was received.</i>	65

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,



MARC TER BEEK
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DIGITAL ENABLING