



West Coast District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora a Rohe o Tai Poutini

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25 September 2018

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RE Official information request WCDHB 9194

We refer to your email dated 16 August 2018 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from West Coast DHB.

1. The number of patients who waited/are waiting longer than the clinically assessed timeframe for a gastroscopy from January 1 2018 to July 31 2018, and what proportion this represents.
 - Please break this information into different priorities (such as “priority 1: more than 14 days” and “priority 2: more than 42 days” and “surveillance”).
 - Please also provide the average and longest delays, broken down into the different priorities.

The breakdown of waiting times for people who were seen or were waiting for gastroscopy in the period 1 January 2018 to 31 July 2018 as requested above are as follows:

Table one: Gastroscopy

Gastroscopy: Wait Times by Priority Category for those seen and those waiting during period 1 January – 31 July 2018	Urgent (14 Days)	Semi-Urgent (42 Days)	Routine (120 days)	Other Surveillance (no expected wait time)	TOTAL
1. Seen/Waiting within Expected Waiting times:					
Total Patients	17	56	37	7	117
Average Wait (Days)	8	29	35	308	45
Longest Wait (Days)	14	42	51	415	
2. Seen / Waited Outside Expected Waiting times:					
Total Patients	1	25	0	0	26
Average Wait (Days)	23	54	0	0	53
Longest Wait (Days)	23	97	0	0	
3. Total Gastroscopies:					
Total Patients Seen / Waiting	18	81	37	7	143
Average Wait (Days)	9	37	35	308	46

2. The number of patients who waited/are waiting longer than the clinically assessed timeframe for a colonoscopy from January 1 2018 to July 31 2018, and what proportion this represents.
 - Please break this information into different priorities (such as “urgent”, “non-urgent” and “surveillance”).
 - Please also provide the average and longest delays, broken down into the different priorities.

Please refer to Table two overleaf.

The breakdown of waiting times for people who were seen or were waiting for colonoscopy in the period 1 January 2018 to 31 July 2018 as requested above are as follows:

Table two: Colonoscopy

Colonoscopy: Wait Times by Priority Category for those seen and those waiting during period 1 January – 31 July 2018	Urgent (14 Days)	Semi-Urgent (42 Days)	Routine (120 days)	Other Surveillance (no expected wait time)	TOTAL
1. Seen within Expected Waiting times:					
Total Patients	35	138	130	36	339
Average Wait (Days)	9	30	38	278	57
Longest Wait (Days)	14	42	114	1079	
2. Seen / Waited Outside Expected Waiting times:					
Total Patients	5	44	0	0	49
Average Wait (Days)	24	51	0	0	48
Longest Wait (Days)	42	92	0	0	
3. Total Colonoscopies:					
Total Patients Seen / Waiting	40	182	130	36	388
Average Wait (Days)	11	35	38	278	56

- 3. The number of dermatology referrals rejected in the first six months of 2018. Please state whether the patient in question was a child or adult, and what proportion of the total number of referrals those rejected represent.**

There were 18 referrals for dermatology that were rejected in the period 1 January to 30 June 2018; 26% of the 69 referrals made overall during the period. This included two referrals rejected for children (20% of total of 10 child referrals), where the definition of a child has been interpreted as being a person under the age of 18 years old, in line with the UNCROC and New Zealand Human Rights Commission definition of a child. None of those referrals rejected were for children aged under 14 years.

There are no visiting Specialist Dermatology outpatient services currently provided on the West Coast due to the non-availability of Specialists in this particular tertiary speciality field. All referrals received for dermatology are either transferred on to Specialist Dermatology services provided in Christchurch by the Canterbury District Health Board, or - dependent on the nature of the condition referred and where clinically appropriate - transferred to another speciality that is provided locally for assessment and treatment.

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the West Coast DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely



Carolyn Gullery
Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support