

28 February 2020

OIA: 2020/032

A KS

Email: fyi-request-12179-c1a73f60@requests.fyi.org.nz

Official information Request: 2020/032

Dear A KS

Thank you for your request for official information, received on 8 February 2020, requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

“... the longest, shortest, median and average wait times for outpatient- patients (referred by GPs to see a specialist (First appointment) at Wellington hospital over the last 6 months, and 1 year). Please provide the wait times data split by each specialty eg. your response should tell the wait times specifically for each specialty like number of days to see a Cardiologist or urologist or gynaecologist etc.”

Response

Please see tables (Appendices 1 and 2) showing information requested for 6 months and 12 months by specialty; these tables include patients referred by General Practitioners and seen at Wellington Hospital.

Please note that we have excluded the following sub-sets of appointments:

- patients who have rescheduled or missed their appointments, which would affect the average waiting times and the longest waiting times;
- bariatric appointments (general surgery), as these patients need to see other health professionals prior to seeing the specialist;
- sleep appointments (respiratory), as these patients require “sleep studies” prior to seeing the specialist;
- neurophysiology (neurology), where the patient requires investigations prior to seeing the specialist; and
- urology appointments, where investigations are required prior to seeing the specialist.

Thank you for your enquiry. We trust it meets your requirement/s, however should you require any further information please feel free to contact me.

You have the right, under section 28 of the OIA, to seek a review or to ask the Ombudsman to review the information that has been provided to you.

Regards,



Fionnagh Dougan
Chief Executive

Appendix 1

Table 1: 6 months of data covering 1 August 2019 – 31 January 2020

	Minimum Number of Days	Maximum Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Median Number of Days
Cardiology - 1st attendance	2	140	67	70
Cardiothoracic - 1st attendance	7	102	36	32
Dermatology - 1st attendance	1	220	104	114
Diabetes - 1st attendance	0	151	54	49
Ear Nose and Throat - 1st attendance	0	154	73	91
Endocrinology - 1st attendance	3	141	75	83
Fracture Clinic - 1st attendance	0	147	7	1
Gastroenterology - 1st attendance	3	131	87	91
General Medicine - 1st attendance	0	143	83	105
General Surgery - 1st attendance	1	154	85	102
Gynaecology - 1st attendance	1	212	76	93
Haematology - 1st attendance	1	96	35	33
Immunology (excludes rheumatology) - 1st attendance	23	237	96	106
Infectious Diseases (incl HIV/Aids) - 1st attendance	7	105	45	38
Medical Oncology 1st attendance	6	42	18	16
Neurology - 1st attendance	0	155	70	64
Neurosurgery - 1st attendance	0	150	57	56
Ophthalmology - 1st attendance	0	182	30	3
Orthopaedics - 1st attendance	0	187	82	98
Paediatric Medical Outpatient - 1st attendance	1	154	62	58
Paediatric Surgery Outpatient - 1st attendance	0	80	27	26
Radiation Oncology 1st Attendance	1	65	26	26
Renal Medicine - 1st attendance	1	108	35	32
Respiratory - 1st attendance	2	150	53	42
Specialist Paediatric Cardiac - 1st Attendance	6	119	72	84
Specialist Paediatric Endocrinology - 1st attendance	3	118	58	62
Specialist Paediatric Neurology Outpatient 1st attendance	3	102	34	29
Specialist Paediatric Respiratory 1st attendance	15	132	73	75
Urology - 1st attendance	2	241	93	98
Vascular Surgery Outpatient - 1st attendance	4	262	80	84

All referrals are prioritised by senior medical officers based on the information provided in the referral by the general practitioners. Individual patients may have needed radiology or other investigations prior to their consultation.

Appendix 2

Table 2: 12 months of data covering 1 February 2019 – 31 January 2020

	Minimum Number of Days	Maximum Number of Days	Average Number of Days	Median Number of Days
Cardiology - 1st attendance	2	159	80	82
Cardiothoracic - 1st attendance	6	117	40	35
Dermatology - 1st attendance	1	220	101	114
Diabetes - 1st attendance	0	151	58	54
Ear Nose and Throat - 1st attendance	0	154	75	92
Endocrinology - 1st attendance	3	141	72	77
Fracture Clinic - 1st attendance	0	147	12	2
Gastroenterology - 1st attendance	1	155	82	90
General Medicine - 1st attendance	0	182	83	105
General Surgery - 1st attendance	0	202	83	94
Gynaecology - 1st attendance	1	212	76	94
Haematology - 1st attendance	0	96	32	28
Immunology (excludes rheumatology) - 1st attendance	4	237	101	114
Infectious Diseases (incl HIV/Aids) - 1st attendance	0	131	36	29
Medical Oncology 1st attendance	1	65	21	19
Neurology - 1st attendance	0	155	70	70
Neurosurgery - 1st attendance	0	189	64	68
Ophthalmology - 1st attendance	0	216	30	4
Orthopaedics - 1st attendance	0	187	88	103
Paediatric Medical Outpatient - 1st attendance	0	181	63	62
Paediatric Surgery Outpatient - 1st attendance	0	83	28	26
Radiation Oncology 1st Attendance	1	80	27	26
Renal Medicine - 1st attendance	1	118	45	36
Respiratory - 1st attendance	2	184	60	45
Specialist Paediatric Cardiac - 1st Attendance	6	162	67	70
Specialist Paediatric Endocrinology - 1st attendance	0	151	66	69
Specialist Paediatric Neurology Outpatient 1st attendance	2	125	41	35
Specialist Paediatric Respiratory 1st attendance	6	132	60	75
Urology - 1st attendance	0	259	95	106
Vascular Surgery Outpatient - 1st attendance	4	262	86	94

All referrals are prioritised by senior medical officers based on the information provided in the referral by the general practitioners. Individual patients may have needed radiology or other investigations prior to their consultation.