

7 April 2020

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Via Email: [REDACTED]

Response to a request for official information

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for official information received 24 February 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹ followed by the necessary extension of time 20 March 2020, where you seek information regarding Clinical Priority Assessment Criteria (CPAC) Thresholds.

We are interested in information on the elective surgery clinical priority assessment criteria (CPAC) scores. In particular, we are looking to obtain accurate information on the CPAC DHB Thresholds (e.g. TT, ATT, CT, etc.):

1. for each elective surgery category

TABLE 1

Elective surgery category	Treatment threshold
Cardiology	30
Dental	45
Gynaecology	55
Ophthalmology	60
Otorhinolaryngology	62
General Surgery	71
Orthopaedics	72

2. for each year (since the introductory year 1996)

Recorded changes to elective surgery treatment thresholds are depicted in Table 2.

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

TABLE 2

Elective surgery category	Date of change	Treatment threshold
Gynaecology	04/11/2019	55
Ophthalmology	24/10/2017	65
	23/03/2018	60
Otorhinolaryngology	24/10/2017	65
	04/11/2019	62
General Surgery	28/01/2019	71
Orthopaedics	02/09/2016	71
	26/02/2018	65
	20/08/2018	69
	28/01/2019	72

3. enforcement levels (i.e. whether the cutoffs where mandatory)

Clinicians have the ability to over-ride a patient's CPAC score where clinically appropriate.

4. any other relevant information about the scores/thresholds and changes over time

Treatment thresholds are based on the capacity of the service to deliver, with expectation that patients who score below the treatment threshold are returned to the care of their General Medical Practitioner who can re-refer to the DHB as necessary.

This response has been provided under the Official Information Act 1982. You have the right to seek an investigation by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or free phone 0800 802 602.

If you have any questions about this decision please feel free to email our OIA Coordinator OIArequest@nmdhb.govt.nz. I trust that this information meets your requirements. NMH, like other agencies across the state sector, supports the open disclosure of information to assist the public's understanding of how we are delivering publicly-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. If you feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider.

Yours sincerely



Dr Peter Bramley
Chief Executive

cc: Ministry of Health via email: SectorOIA@moh.govt.nz