

20 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 as received 14 January 2020 by Nelson Marlborough Health (NMH)¹, followed by the necessary extension of time 13 February 2020 and notice of decision 12 March 2020, where you seek the following information for the period from 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019.

Total hip replacements

1. Breakdown in terms of numbers of hip replacements for each type of GP referral that were declined and accepted?

1A. Non urgent referrals

1B. Urgent referrals

2. Breakdown in terms of numbers of hip replacements for each type of specialist referral that were declined and accepted?

2A. Non urgent referrals

2B. Urgent referrals

2C. Emergency department referrals

Our Patient Information System does not capture this information as the requested referral groupings are not in line with DHB definitions and processes.

3. Once the following hip replacement referral has been accepted how long before seeing a specialist?

3A. Non urgent referrals

3B. Urgent referrals

TABLE 1

Prioritisation category	Average Days between Referral and First Specialist Appointment
Urgent	48
Non-urgent	116

¹ Nelson Marlborough District Health Board

3C. Emergency department referrals

Our Patient Information System does not capture this information as the requested referral groupings are not in line with DHB definitions and processes.

4. How long for each of the following types of hip replacement referrals to have a scan?

4A. Non urgent referrals

4B. Urgent referrals

4C. Emergency department referrals

4D. GP referrals

4E. Specialist referrals

NMH does not hold this information as diagnostic radiology is usually undertaken by a private radiology provider.

5. How long for each of the types of hip replacement referrals being accepted for surgery?

5A. Non urgent referrals

5B. Urgent referrals

TABLE 2

Prioritisation category	Average Days between placement on Wait List and Admission
Urgent	50
Non urgent	142

5C. Emergency department referrals

Please see our response for Question 3C.

5D. GP referral

5E. Specialist referral

TABLE 3

Referral group	Average Days between placement on Wait List and Admission
General Practitioner	124
Specialist	152

6. How many hip replacement operations did you have funding for in the financial year 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019 and how many were carried out?

NMH does not allocate specific funding for a particular procedure.

For the Year ended 30 September 2019, the DHB delivered 486 major joint (hip and knee) procedures – 50 joints above our expected target.

Total knee replacements

1. Breakdown in terms of numbers of knee replacements for each type of GP referral that were declined and accepted?

1A. Non urgent referrals

1B. Urgent referrals

2. Breakdown in terms of numbers of knee replacements for each type of specialist referral that were declined and accepted?

2A. Non urgent referrals

2B. Urgent referrals

2C. Emergency department referrals

Our Patient Information System does not capture this information as the requested referral groupings are not in line with DHB definitions and processes.

3. Once the following knee replacement referral has been accepted how long before seeing a specialist?

3A. Non urgent referrals

3B. Urgent referrals

TABLE 4

Prioritisation category	Average Days between Referral and First Specialist Appointment
Urgent	19
Non urgent	143

3C. Emergency department referrals

Please see our response for Question 2C.

4. How long for each of the following types of knee replacement referrals to have a scan?

4A. Non urgent referrals

4B. Urgent referrals

4C. Emergency department referrals

4D. GP referrals

4E. Specialist referrals

NMH does not hold this information as diagnostic radiology is usually undertaken by a private radiology provider.

5. How long for each of the types of knee replacement referrals being accepted for surgery?

5A. Non urgent referrals

5B. Urgent referrals

TABLE 5

Prioritisation category	Average Days between placement on Wait List and Admission
Urgent	78
Non urgent	149

5C. Emergency department referrals

Please see our response for Question 2C.

5D. GP referral

5E. Specialist referral

TABLE 6

Referral Group	Average Days between placement on Wait List and Admission
General Practitioner	132
Specialist	166

6. How many knee replacement operations did you have funding for in the financial year 1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019 and how many were carried out?

Please refer to our response for Question 6 (Page 2).

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