

12 July 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

Official information request W19-354

I refer to your official information request dated 24 June 2019.

Request:

The Sunday programme would like to request some information regarding wait times for cancer treatment.

1. Have any people been harmed as a result of oncology and / or radiation wait times? If so, how many?
2. Are there any reports that indicate and / or detail harm to patients as a result of oncology service wait times or radiation wait times? Can you supply those report(s)?
3. Have any reports been provided indicating patients are being compromised by wait times to access first treatment of first specialist appointment? Can you supply those reports?
4. Have any of your staff raised concerns about the adverse effects on patients due to waiting times?

Response:

The information you have requested is below.

1. To the best of our knowledge no people have been harmed as a result of oncology and / or radiation wait times.
2. There have been no reported events that indicate and / or detail harm to patients as a result of oncology service wait times or radiation wait times.
3. There have been no reported events provided indicating patients are being compromised by wait times to access first treatment of first specialist appointment.
4. Staff at WrDHB work very hard to ensure patient wellbeing is not put at risk. There are no reports of staff concerned about patients being adversely affect due to wait times.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Wairarapa District Health Board website no less than one week after the response has been provided to you. Any personal or identifying information will be redacted from any response published online. The DHB will endeavour to resolve any concerns you should raise but, subject to any legal grounds for withholding, ultimately reserves the right to publish any information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact:

Caroline van Deventer, Communications Administrator

Email: caroline.vanDeventer@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz, Ph: 06 946 9800, ext 5840

Yours sincerely



Anna Cardno

Communications Manager