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FHA File: 2020-140

January 22, 2021

Via email to gage@secondstreet.org

Dear: Gage Haubrich

Re: *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) Request – Data on the number of patients that died while on waiting list for surgical procedure, diagnostic scan or consultation with a specialist in 2019-20.*

I am writing in order to provide Fraser Health's response to your FIPPA request. Specifically, you have requested the following information:

“

- 1. Please provide data on the number of patients that died while on a waiting list for a surgical procedure in 2019-20. Please break the data out by procedure and case info - date the patient was referred to a specialist, decision date, date for the procedure and date of cancellation. Please also note the government's target time for providing the procedure in question. (Note: many hospitals/health regions were able to identify such cases as they track the reason for cancelled operations)*
- 2. Please provide data on the number of patients that died while on a waiting list for either a diagnostic scan or a consultation with a specialist in 2019-20. Please break the data out by procedure and case info - date the patient went on the waiting list, date for the meeting with the specialist or date for diagnostic scan (if scheduled), and date of cancellation. Please also note the government's target time for providing the meeting or scan in question. (Note: many hospitals/health regions were able to identify such cases as they track the reason for cancelled operations) ”*

Please find attached information that you have requested for item 1. However, regarding requested item 2, the data is not collected for patients who died while on a waitlist for a diagnostic scan therefore, we are unable to provide the information. As for patients who died waiting for consultation with a specialist, Fraser Health would not be able to locate, retrieve or produce records as this information is not within our custody and control.

We trust that your request for information has now been satisfied and that no further action with regard to your request is required of this office.

Should you find this response unsatisfactory, you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review Fraser Health Authority's decision. You have 30 business days from receipt of this notice to request a review by writing to the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner. Detailed information on how to request a review by OIPC is available on the OIPC website: <http://www.oipc.bc.ca>.

If you have any questions or require any clarification regarding the processing of your request, please email our FOI team at FOI@fraserhealth.ca.

Sincerely,



Joelle Park
Freedom of Information Office
Fraser Health Authority

Surgery Bookings Cancelled due to Patient Death

Fraser Health - Fiscal Year 2019/20

This report provides summary counts of bookings for surgery that were cancelled from the FH waitlist during fiscal year 2019/20 (1st Apr 2019 to 31st Mar 2020) due to patient death.

Report date: 2020-11-26

Data source: BC Surgical Patient Registry

Notes:

- These data reflect bookings for surgeries in an operating room. Other areas (such as ambulatory procedure rooms, endoscopy suites, etc) are not reflected here.
- The report covers bookings that were cancelled during the fiscal year. There can be a delay between the patient's death and the booking office being notified to cancel the booking. As such, this is not a direct tally of patients who died during the fiscal year.
- In addition, the wait time measurement is from the date the booking form received to date of cancellation of the booking. As such, reported wait time will be often greater than the time on the waitlist at the time of death.
- To protect patient confidentiality, tallies of procedure types below 10 counts are not shown directly, but are reflected in the "other" category.

Primary procedure	Count	Proportion with wait time > 26w
Cataract Extraction & IOL Implant	149	36%
Arthroplasty Knee Replacement	13	69%
Reposition/Replace/Remove Pacemaker/Defibrillator/ICD/AICD Wire/Lead or Generator	12	25%
<i>Other procedures with <10 counts</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>33%</i>
Total	307	36%