

Office of the
Chief Executive Officer
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Canada C1A 7N8

Bureau du
directeur général
16, rue Garfield
C.P. 2000, Charlottetown
Île-du-Prince-Édouard
Canada C1A 7N8

February 22, 2021

Re: *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*

Request for: "Please provide data on the number of patients that died while on a waiting list for a surgical procedure during the calendar year 2020. Please break the data out by procedure and case info – date the patient was referred to specialist, decision date, date for 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)"

Time Frame: Calendar year 2020

File No.: 2021-07

Health PEI received your request for access to the information described above under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* ("the Act") on January 18, 2021. We are pleased to provide you with access to the available information in the table below.

Please note that the requested information is only available for the specific procedures on which Health PEI reports wait times to the Canadian Institute for Health Information ("CIHI"). In response to your request for case information, we are pleased to provide you with average length of time on wait list prior to cancellation of procedure. As the number of patients included in the counts for each procedure is very low, release of the specific dates related to individual patients could have impacts to personal privacy.

Procedure Wait List Information - Jan 1, 2020 to Dec 31, 2020

	<i>Number of patients who died on waiting list¹</i>	<i>Average length of time on wait list prior to cancellation</i>	<i>CIHI Benchmark Wait Time - 2020</i>
Hip replacement	1	407	182 days
Knee replacement	0	0	182 days
Hip fracture repair	0	0	48 hours
Cataract surgery	11	267	112 days
Radiation therapy ²	0	0	28 days

Notes:

1. Wait list is defined, for the purposes of reporting to CIHI, as the period of time between the patient accepting the first available appointment for the procedure and the booked date for the procedure. Date of referral to specialist is not collected by Health PEI.
2. For radiation therapy, wait list is defined as the period of time between Ready to Treat Date and start of therapy. Ready to Treat refers to the date on which all pre-treatment investigations and any planned delay is over and the patient is ready to begin the treatment process from both a social/personal and medical perspective.

Section 60 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* provides that you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review any matter regarding this decision. You have sixty (60) days from the date of this notice to request a review by writing the Information and Privacy Commissioner at the J. Angus MacLean Building, P.O. Box 2000, Charlottetown, PE, C1A 7N8.

If you wish to request a review, please provide the Commissioner with the following information:

1. The reference number quoted at the top of this notice.
2. A copy of this letter.
3. A copy of your original request for information sent to Health PEI.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jeanne MacDougall, Manager of Health Privacy and Information Access, by email at jnmacdougall@gov.pe.ca or by phone at (902) 368-4942.

Sincerely,



Denise Lewis Fleming
Chief Executive Officer

- c. Jeanne MacDougall, Manager of Health Privacy and Information Access, Health PEI