

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

June 29, 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 surgery or a procedure in fiscal year 2020-21. 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 canceled operations)"

Time Frame: Fiscal Year 2020-21
File No.: 2021-57

I am writing in response to your request for access to information described above, pursuant to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* ("the Act"), which was received by Health PEI on June 8, 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 cancelation 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.

| <i>Procedure Wait List Information – April 1, 2020- March 31, 2021</i> | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| | <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* - 2021</i> |
| Hip replacement | 0 | N/A | 182 days |
| Knee replacement | 0 | N/A | 182 days |
| Hip fracture repair | 0 | N/A | 48 hours |
| Cataract surgery | 7 | 200** | 112 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.
2. ** The information provided in the table above includes four (4) Surgeon Requested Dates, two (2) First Scheduled Dates, and one (1) Patient Requested Date.
3. The date of referral to a specialist is not collected by Health PEI.
4. ** The data provided is an average length of time on the waitlist prior to the cancellation of the procedure for six (6) of the seven (7) patients as the dates were not available for the 7th patient.

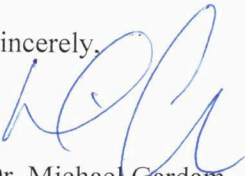
Section 60 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* provides that you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review any matter regarding this decision. You have 60 days from the date of this notice to request a review by writing the Information and Privacy Commissioner 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 (jnmacdougall@gov.pe.ca) or by phone at (902) 368-4942.

Sincerely,



Dr. Michael Gardam
Interim CEO, Health PEI

- c. Crystal Llewellyn, Access to Information and Privacy Analyst