

PRIVATE and CONFIDENTIAL
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July 26, 2021



RE: Access Decision 2021-017

Dear 

This letter is in response to your request under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for access to:

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 fiscal year 2020-21. 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)

I am pleased to grant you access to all of your request except for:

- 1) Procedure date, as no date had been booked prior to the patient passing.

You may ask for a review of this decision within 30 days of receiving this letter by writing to:

Registrar, Information and Privacy Commissioner/Ontario
2 Bloor Street East, Suite 1400
Toronto, ON M4W 1A8

Telephone: (416) 326-3333 or toll free 1-800-387-0073.

If you decide to request a review of this decision, please provide the Commissioner's office with the following:

- The file number listed at the beginning of this letter;
- A copy of this decision letter;
- A copy of the original request for information you sent to our institution
- The reasons why you believe the records exist (if the decision was that no records exist)

In addition, you must send an appeal fee to Commissioner's office. If your request was for your personal information, the appeal fee is \$10.00. The appeal fee for all other requests for information is \$25.00. Please include the fee with your letter to appeal - appeal fees should be in the form of either a cheque or money order, payable to the Minister of Finance.

We would appreciate you using the file number assigned to your request in any further correspondence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (519) 685-8500 ext. 75469.

Sincerely,



Nathan Craddock
Privacy Consultant
London Health Sciences Centre
(519) 685-8500 ext. 75469

Enclosed.

The Request:

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 fiscal year 2020-21. 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)

The Response:



London Health Sciences Centre
Decision Support

Patients that Died While Waiting for MI Procedure FY2020/21

This report was produced in response to a Freedom of Information Request made to the Decision Support. The request was data on the number of patients who died while waiting for their MI procedure. The MI data mart and Cerner was used to identify these cases. Imaging cases that were cancelled due to 'Patient Deceased' in FY 2020/2021 were included in this report. The **Cancellation date** was used as a proxy for the **death date** as the **actual date of death does not get recorded** in the data sources used for this report. The cause of death is unknown; and whether the wait for the MI procedure ordered contributed to the death or not is also unknown and inconclusive.

Cases scheduled to be performed at a specific time for clinical reasons (Timed Exams) were excluded from this report. All modalities that satisfy the inclusion and exclusion criteria outlined were included.

This report was produced under the assumption that if the **Cancelled date** is between the **Order received** date and the **Requested date** (date requested for when the imaging should take place) then the conclusion is that the patient died while waiting for the procedure to be done.

For CT and MRI cases DART days (if available), Priority levels and Target days are included.

Number of Patients that died while on a Waiting list for MI by Procedure

Procedure Type	# of Patients
Angio/Interventional	3
CT	25
MRI	11
Nuclear Medicine	7
US	6
Total	52

These are cases that were cancelled due to patient death and it was produced under the assumption that If the **Cancelled date** is after the **Order received date** but before the **Requested date** (The date requested for when the imaging should take place) then the conclusion is that the patient died while waiting for the procedure to be done.

Details on these dates for each procedure type are presented in separate sheets here

Dates Affecting Readiness to Treat
Flora

Angio/Interventional

Case Id	Exam Name	Ordered Date	Cancel Dt Tm	Requested Date
7594679	Nephrostomy Tube Change Bilat	08-May-20	07-Aug-20	07-Aug-20
7850125	Nephrostomy Tube Change Bilat	04-Nov-20	26-Jan-21	03-Feb-21
7882620	Trans Arterial Chemo Embolization	06-Nov-20	04-Jan-21	07-Jan-21
3				

MRI

Case Id	Exam Name	Ordered Date	Cancel Date	Requested Date	DART Days	Priority	TargetDays	Wait2Days
4536241	MR Head	27-Aug-19	25-May-20	11-Jun-20	0	4	28	289
6394552	MR Head	26-Nov-19	25-Sep-20	28-Sep-20	0	4	28	307
7643445	MR Ankle Rt	11-Feb-20	19-Jun-20	27-Jun-20	0	4	28	137
7662229	MR Pelvis	17-Jun-20	10-Jul-20	17-Jul-20	0	3	10	30
7848205	MR Liver	05-Feb-20	10-Nov-20	11-Jan-21				341
7862413	MR Head - Contrast	16-Nov-20	17-Nov-20	21-Dec-20	0	4	28	35
7870028	MR Head	19-Jul-20	26-Nov-20	01-Dec-20				135
7900124	MR Spine Cervical	31-Jul-20	03-Feb-21	10-Feb-21				194
7944023	MR Head - Contrast	12-Jan-21	20-Jan-21	20-Jan-21	0	3	10	8
7971250	MR Head - Contrast	27-Jan-21	09-Feb-21	10-Feb-21	2	3	10	12
8015622	MR Spine Complete	22-Feb-21	26-Feb-21	05-Mar-21	0	3	10	11
11								

CT

Case Id	Exam Name	Ordered Date	Cancel Date	Requested Date	DART Days	Priority	TargetDays	Wait2Days
6081576	CT Head	17-Mar-20	30-Apr-20	20-Jul-20	0	3	10	125
7181860	CT Abdomen/Pelvis	11-Feb-20	30-Apr-20	20-Jul-20	0	3	10	160
7591834	CT Thorax - High Resolut	09-Dec-19	11-May-20	07-Jun-20	0	4	28	181
7631438	CT Cardiac CAP	13-Mar-20	07-Jul-20	08-Jul-20	0	4	28	117
7641622	CT Abdomen/Pelvis	04-Jun-20	03-Jul-20	10-Jul-20	0	3	10	36
7642069	CT Abdomen/Pelvis	15-Jun-20	19-Jun-20	23-Jun-20	0	3	10	8
7642979	CT Thorax	15-Jun-20	19-Jun-20	23-Jun-20	0	3	10	8
7644448	CT Thorax	17-Jun-20	02-Sep-20	14-Sep-20	0			89
7645437	CT Thorax	04-Jun-20	03-Jul-20	10-Jul-20	0	3	10	36
7759856	CT Abdomen/Pelvis	10-Jul-20	29-Sep-20	06-Oct-20				88
7775492	CT Thorax	17-Aug-20	07-Oct-20	16-Oct-20				60
7824752	CT Abdomen/Pelvis	20-Oct-20	29-Oct-20	27-Nov-20	0	3	10	38
7825240	CT Thorax - High Resolut	21-Jan-20	23-Oct-20	06-Nov-20				290
7825464	CT Thorax	15-Oct-20	12-Nov-20	01-Dec-20	0	3	10	47
7832188	CT Thorax	20-Oct-20	29-Oct-20	27-Nov-20	0	3	10	38
7834626	CT Head/Neck	15-Oct-20	12-Nov-20	01-Dec-20	0	3	10	47
7850674	CT Head	04-Nov-20	04-Nov-20	04-Nov-20	0	1	1	0
7852294	CT Thorax	04-Nov-20	04-Nov-20	04-Nov-20	0			0
7856461	CT Biopsy	02-Nov-20	30-Nov-20	01-Dec-20	0	3	10	29
7856943	CT Spine Cervical	04-Nov-20	04-Nov-20	04-Nov-20	0			0
7858861	CT Abdomen/Pelvis	04-Nov-20	04-Nov-20	04-Nov-20	0			0
7908938	CT Thorax	11-Dec-20	24-Dec-20	29-Dec-20	0	3	10	18
8018687	CT Heart	23-Feb-21	10-Mar-21	22-Mar-21	0	4	28	27
8019393	CT Cardiac CAP	23-Feb-21	10-Mar-21	22-Mar-21	0	4	28	27
8065519	CT Pulmonary Angio	24-Mar-21	25-Mar-21	25-Mar-21	0	2	2	1
25								

DART Days: Dates Affecting Readiness to Treat

The Wait Times Information System (WTIS) currently captures and reports on wait times for Wait 2, defined as the amount of time that the patient waits for CT or MRI procedures. For CT and MRI scans, Wait 2 is measured from the order received date to the date the actual procedure is performed.

A DART is defined as the period of time between the Order Received Date and the Actual Procedure Date when the patient is unavailable for the procedure due to patient-related reasons. The period of time will be subtracted from the overall Wait 2.

Wait 2 Priority Level

Assigned priority level of DI procedure being performed.

Priority 1: Emergent-Target of 24 Hours

Priority 2: Urgent-Target of 48 Hours

Priority 3: Semi-Urgent-Target of 10 Days

Priority 4: Non-urgent-Target of 28 Days

Nuclear Medicine

Case Id	Exam Name	Ordered Date	Cancel Date	Requested Date
3865584	NM bone scan-total body	27-Mar-20	17-Apr-20	08-May-20
5316365	NM lung perfusion and ventilation	25-Feb-20	15-May-20	15-May-20
7689580	NM meckel's scan	22-Jul-20	23-Jul-20	05-Aug-20
7838275	NM lung perfusion and ventilation	02-Nov-20	06-Jan-21	12-Jan-21
7842542	NM renal function renogram	30-Oct-20	24-Dec-20	06-Jan-21
7843849	NM lung perfusion and ventilation	30-Oct-20	06-Jan-21	12-Jan-21
7846069	NM mets survey 111In octreotide	30-Oct-20	24-Dec-20	06-Jan-21
7				

US

Case Id	Exam Name	Ordered Date	Cancel Date	Requested Date
3805530	US Carotid Doppler Bilat	23-Oct-19	14-Sep-20	28-Oct-20
5091568	US Aorta	21-Oct-19	24-Sep-20	19-Oct-20
5697540	US Kidney/Pelvis	19-Nov-19	23-Jun-20	19-Nov-20
5996364	US Kidney/Pelvis	29-Oct-19	28-May-20	16-Jul-20
7412019	US Leg Arteries Rt	09-Dec-19	16-Dec-20	16-Dec-20
7945662	US Arm Rt Upper	18-Nov-20	14-Jan-21	25-Jan-21
6				

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RE: Access Decision 2021-016

Dear 

This letter is in response to your request under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for access to:

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 cancelled operations)

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The Request:

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 cancelled operations)

The Response:

The Access to Care (ATC) Wait Times Information System (WTIS) and the Cardiac CorHealth WTIS were searched in order to respond, and the findings are as follows:

1. In fiscal year 2020-2021, there were 16 patients removed from the wait list due to being “deceased”. Surgical Programs have processes to escalate cases when the patient’s medical conditions become worse; they rebook or move other patients around in their currently scheduled OR blocks, or they escalate and the case is prioritized as an OR Board cased accordingly.
2. In fiscal year 2020-2021, where Recommended Wait Time is “N/A” this is indicating that there is no recommended wait time that has been set by CorHealth (which is the provincial body that oversees Cardiac Surgery data) for that specific surgery.

Below is the table of deaths on the wait list for cardiac surgery and TAVI procedures where the death date was in FY 2020/21.

Patient	Procedure Type	Referral Date	Death Date	Recommended Wait Time (Days)
1	Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting + Valve	2019/12/03	2020/05/15	88
2	Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting + Valve	2020/02/24	2020/05/24	14
3	Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	2019/09/03	2020/05/31	88
4	Valve Only (Aortic Stenosis, Mitral Regurgitation, Aortic Regurgitation)	2018/07/12	2020/06/11	42
5	Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	2020/04/28	2020/06/18	55
6	Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation	2020/03/14	2020/06/26	N/A
7	Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	2020/06/05	2020/09/05	31
8	Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation	2020/04/22	2020/09/07	N/A
9	Aortic Operation	2020/09/12	2020/09/12	N/A
10	Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation	2020/06/09	2020/09/20	N/A
11	Valve Only (Aortic Stenosis, Mitral Regurgitation, Aortic Regurgitation)	2019/12/18	2020/10/12	N/A
12	Other Valve	2020/11/06	2020/11/18	N/A
13	Aortic Operation	2019/12/30	2021/01/20	N/A
14	Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting	2021/02/04	2021/02/05	1
15	Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation	2020/12/14	2021/03/12	N/A
16	Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation	2021/03/19	2021/03/30	N/A

Please note:

- The same inclusion/exclusion parameters that were used for last year's request were used for this request
- Only included those patients with an acceptance date
- Excluded any patients on a DART at time of death
- Ordered by date of death



Patients that Died While Waiting for an Elective Surgery Procedure (Includes Access To Care (ATC) Wait Times Information System (WTIS) services which do not contain cardiac) Fiscal Year 2020/21

This report was produced in response to a Freedom of Information Request made to the Decision Support. The request was data on the number of patients who died while waiting for their elective surgery procedure.

The LHSC Surgery WTIS and Cerner data mart sources were used to identify these cases that were cancelled due to 'Patient Deceased' in FY2021.

The **Removed from List date** was used as a proxy for the **death date** as the **actual date of death is not an ATC data entry requirement from the Ministry**, or in the data sources used for this report.

Additionally, many patients delayed their surgeries for their own reasons and these cases were deleted from this list as these patients were not actively waiting at that time.

Surgeon's office staff will cancel surgery appointments or patients from the surgical request list when they find out that the patient is deceased. However, there is no reliable method to collect or interface real time information for deaths that happen outside outside LHSC.

Calendar Year	Procedure Type (Service Area, Service Detail 1 & 2)	Wait 1 Data Elements and Results								Wait 2 Data Elements						
		Referral Date	Consult Date	Wait1 Priority	Wait1 Target Days	Wait1 Days	Wait1 Days Over Target	DARC Days	Decision To Treat Date	Scheduled Surgery Date	Removed From List Date	Wait2 Priority	Wait2 Target Days	Wait2 Days Over Target, based on Removal From List Date	DART Days	
FY2021	Orthopaedic Surgery,Hip ,Primary Total Joint Replacement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	2018/07/06	Not Scheduled	2020/09/30	4	182	635	0	
FY2021	Orthopaedic Surgery,Knee ,Primary Total Joint Replacement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	2018/10/05	Not Scheduled	2020/09/01	4	182	515	0	
FY2021	Orthopaedic Surgery,Spine ,Other Spine Surgery	2018/11/21	2018/12/20	2	30	29	-1	0	2019/03/07	Not Scheduled	2020/11/16	2	42	539	39	
FY2021	Orthopaedic Surgery,Knee ,Primary Total Joint Replacement	2018/11/12	2019/03/08	4	182	116	-66	0	2019/03/08	Not Scheduled	2020/06/09	4	182	277	0	
FY2021	Orthopaedic Surgery,Knee ,Primary Total Joint Replacement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	2019/03/21	Not Scheduled	2020/04/17	4	182	211	0	
FY2021	Orthopaedic Surgery,Hip ,Primary Total Joint Replacement	2019/02/01	2019/03/25	3	90	52	-38	0	2019/03/25	Not Scheduled	2020/08/31	4	182	343	0	
FY2021	Orthopaedic Surgery,Knee ,Primary Total Joint Replacement	2019/03/08	2019/04/09	4	182	32	-150	0	2019/04/09	Not Scheduled	2020/10/27	4	182	385	0	
FY2021	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Dentistry,Dental/Periodontal/Dento-Alveolar Procedures,Dentistry for Persons with Disabilities	2019/03/08	2019/04/23	4	182	46	-136	0	2019/04/23	Not Scheduled	2020/06/29	4	182	251	0	
FY2021	Paediatric Urologic Surgery,Renal/Bladder Procedures,Other Renal/Bladder Procedures	2019/02/05	2019/04/25	3	90	79	-11	0	2019/04/25	Not Scheduled	2020/10/05	4	182	347	0	
FY2021	Orthopaedic Surgery,Knee ,Primary Total Joint Replacement	2018/11/20	2019/05/16	4	182	177	-5	0	2019/05/16	Not Scheduled	2020/04/12	4	182	150	0	
FY2021	Otolaryngic Surgery,Neck Surgery,	2019/07/19	2019/08/06	4	182	18	-164	0	2019/08/06	Not Scheduled	2020/08/07	4	182	185	0	
FY2021	Neurosurgery,Epilepsy/Functional Surgery,	2019/06/12	2019/09/25	4	182	105	-77	0	2019/09/25	Not Scheduled	2020/04/06	3	56	138	0	
FY2021	Orthopaedic Surgery,Knee ,Primary Total Joint Replacement	2019/08/28	2019/10/31	4	182	64	-118	0	2019/10/31	Not Scheduled	2020/11/07	4	182	191	0	
FY2021	Orthopaedic Surgery,Knee ,Primary Total Joint Replacement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	2019/12/18	Not Scheduled	2021/02/05	4	182	233	0	
FY2021	Oncology Procedures,Gynaecological,Treatment	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	2020/02/06	Not Scheduled	2020/04/23	3	28	49	0	
FY2021	Orthopaedic Surgery,Knee ,Primary Total Joint Replacement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	2020/03/16	Not Scheduled	2020/04/15	4	182	-152	0	
FY2021	Oncology Procedures,Endocrine (Thyroid, Endocrine Pancreas, Adrenal Ph,Treatment	2019/12/20	2020/02/02	4	35	44	11	0	2020/03/20	Not Scheduled	2020/07/21	4	84	-20	59	
FY2021	Paediatric General Surgery,Abdominal Wall/Inguinal Canal Surgery,Other Abdominal Wall/Inguinal Canal Surgery	2020/05/27	2020/05/27	2	30	0	-30	0	2020/05/27	Not Scheduled	2020/06/17	2	21	0	0	
FY2021	Vascular Surgery,Aneurysm Surgery,Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Surgery	2020/06/04	2020/06/09	2	30	0	-30	4	2020/06/09	2020/06/15	2020/06/13	2	14	-10	0	
FY2021	Orthopaedic Surgery,Knee ,Arthroscopy	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	2020/08/25	Not Scheduled	2021/02/22	3	84	97	0	
FY2021	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Dentistry,Dental/Periodontal/Dento-Alveolar Procedures,Dentistry for Persons with Disabilities	2020/02/11	2020/09/03	4	182	30	-152	174	2020/09/03	Not Scheduled	2020/11/22	3	84	-4	0	
FY2021	Orthopaedic Surgery,Knee ,Primary Total Joint Replacement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	2020/11/13	Not Scheduled	2021/01/17	4	182	-117	0	
FY2021	Urologic Surgery,Benign Prostate Surgery,Other Benign Prostate Surgery	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	2020/11/23	Not Scheduled	2021/01/16	3	84	-30	0	
FY2021	Vascular Surgery,Thoracoabdominal Surgery,	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	2021/02/24	2021/03/09	2021/03/03	3	56	-49	0	
FY2021	Vascular Surgery,Amputation Surgery,Below Knee	2021/02/18	2021/02/24	3	90	6	-84	0	2021/02/24	2021/03/01	2021/02/26	3	56	-54	0	

Definitions:

DARC Days- Dates Affecting Readiness to Consult. This is the # of days that the patient advised that they were not available to attend a physician consult appointment. This stops the wait time clock, so those days aren't counted against target wait time.

DART Days- Dates Affecting Readiness to Consult. This is the # of days that the patient advised that they were not available to have their surgery procedure. This stops the wait time clock, so those days aren't counted against target wait time.

Wait 1 Days- Time between "referral received date" and "consult" appointment date with surgeon, minus any DARCs.

Wait 2 Days- Time between "decision to treat date" and "OR surgery procedure date" minus any DARTs.

Actively Waiting? - If the patient was removed from the list during the DART period, they wouldn't be considered waiting for surgery.