



Ontario Health

July 21, 2022

Kristen Schulz
Secondstreet.org



Kristen@secondstreet.org

Sent by email

Dear Kristen Schulz:

RE: FOI Access Request OH22-006

I am writing regarding your access request under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (hereafter, 'the Act') received by our office on June 9, 2022 and clarified on July 4, 2022.

Your clarified request was for:

1. *The overall number of people who died while on a waiting list for a diagnostic scan in 2021-22 (the data regarding consultation with a specialist is not something to which we have access)*
2. *The overall number of people who died while on a waiting list for a surgical procedure in 2021-22.*

A search has been conducted and the responsive information has been reviewed. A decision has been made to grant access to the responsive information. The official responsible for making the access decision to this record is Matthew Anderson, President and CEO, Ontario Health.

Section 57 of FIPPA requires fees to be charged for processing a request. The fee for processing your request is \$15. The fee breakdown is as follows:

- \$15 for 0.5 hour developing a computer program or other method of producing a record from machine readable record at \$7.50 per quarter hour.

FIPPA provides that all or part of the fee can be waived if in our opinion it is fair and equitable to do so. The decision has been made to waive the fees for this request. The responsive record is attached.

You may request the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario ('the IPC') to review this decision within 30 days from the date of this letter. The IPC's address is Suite 1400, 2 Bloor Street East, Toronto, Ontario, M4W 1A8. The appeal fee for a request like yours is \$25.00, payable by cheque or money order to the Minister of Finance. This fee must be included with your correspondence with the Commissioner's office. Please note that, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the IPC may have different or additional procedures for handling appeals and related fees at this time. You may wish to refer to the IPC website at www.ipc.on.ca, or phone the IPC at 1-800- 387-0073, for details.

Should you have any questions, please contact FOI@ontariohealth.ca . We would appreciate you using our request number OH22-006 in any further correspondence with Ontario Health about this request.

Sincerely,

Phuong Truong
Ontario Health FOI Office
FOI@ontariohealth.ca



Ontario Health

Freedom of Information Access Request OH22-006 Responsive Records

*Data provided from the Wait Time Information System (WTIS). Data based on procedures cancelled in the WTIS with the reason that the procedure was no longer required due to patient death.

Surgery

Between 4/1/2021 and 3/31/2022, there were 1,417 surgeries cancelled in Ontario where the patient passed away before the procedure took place.

Mortality is impacted by many complex and interrelated clinical, socioeconomic, and cultural factors. The above surgical statistics do not indicate the procedures were intended to be life-saving, nor that patients passed away as a result of an extended waitlist for a surgical procedure.

Diagnostic Imaging

Between 4/1/2021 and 3/31/2022, there were 1,993 magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and 5,404 computed tomography (CT) procedures cancelled in Ontario when the patients passed away before the procedures took place.

Mortality is impacted by many complex and interrelated clinical, socioeconomic, and cultural factors. This statistic does not indicate the procedures were intended to be life-saving, nor that patients passed away because they were on an extended waitlist for MRI or CT.