



# Ontario Health

November 9, 2022



## Access Request: OH22-016

Dear Kristen Schulz,

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 October 10, 2022 for:

*Further to FOI OH22-006, please breakdown the 1,417 waiting list deaths in 2021-22 by procedure or surgery the patient was waiting for when they passed away. For Example: 350 were waiting for knee surgeries, 250 were waiting for hip surgeries, 400 were waiting for cardiac surgery, and 417 were waiting for brain surgery.*

A search has been conducted and the responsive records have been reviewed. A decision has been made to grant access to 1 record. The official responsible for making the access decision on your request is Matthew Anderson.

The actual fee for processing your request is \$30.00. The breakdown for your fee is as follows:

- \$30.00 for search time based on 1 hour of time @ \$7.50 per quarter hour.

The Act 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.

You may request the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review this decision and fee within thirty days from the date of this letter. The Commissioner's address is Suite 1400, 2 Bloor Street East, Toronto, Ontario, M4W 1A8. The appeal fee is \$25.00 payable by cheque or money order to the Minister of Finance and must be included with your correspondence.

Should you have any questions, please contact [FOI@ontariohealth.ca](mailto:FOI@ontariohealth.ca). We would appreciate you using the above listed access request number in any further correspondence.

Sincerely,

**Adam Roffel**  
**Senior Specialist, Freedom of Information**  
Freedom of Information Office  
[foi@ontariohealth.ca](mailto:foi@ontariohealth.ca)



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## Freedom of Information Access Request OH22-016 Responsive Records

Of the 1,417 cancelled procedures in FY 2021/22 due to patient death, the following is the breakdown by surgery that the patient was waiting for:

- 42% were awaiting Cataract surgery
- 3% were awaiting all other Ophthalmic surgery
- 10% were awaiting Urologic surgery
- 8% were awaiting Knee surgery
- 4% were awaiting Hip surgery
- 4% were awaiting all other Orthopaedic surgery
- 7% were awaiting a General Surgery
- 7% were awaiting Cancer surgery
- 4% were awaiting Vascular Surgery
- 2% were awaiting Gynaecologic surgery
- 2% were awaiting Neurosurgery
- 2% were awaiting Oral and Maxillofacial surgery and dentistry
- 2% were awaiting Otolaryngic surgery
- 2% were awaiting Paediatric surgery

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.