

**REPORTING PERIOD:** Fiscal Year 2022/23 (April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023)

**PURPOSE:** To provide the number of surgery bookings that were cancelled due to the death of the patient while the patient was on an Interior Health wait list for elective surgery.

**REQUESTOR:** Catharine Bruch, Freedom of Information Department, IH

**FINDINGS & ANALYSIS:**

In Fiscal Year 2022/23, there were 217 booking records cancelled and removed from the Interior Health (IH) wait list due to the death of the patient while they waited for their surgical date, representing 2.3% of all cancelled bookings in IHA. There were 69 various types of procedures cancelled due to patient death; Cataracts had 57 (26%), followed by Arthroplasty Knee Replacements with 17 (8%), Transurethral Resection Prostate 17 (8%), Repair Hernia Inguinal 13 (6%), and Insertion/Removal Stents 11 (5%).

The wait time for surgery starts the day the booking form is received at an IH hospital booking office. Of the 217 bookings that were cancelled due to patient death, 92 bookings (42%) had been waiting over the clinical benchmark wait time target for that surgery type at the date of patient death.

The reason for patient death is not documented in Interior Health and is unknown. Consequently, this report cannot be used to determine a correlation between the wait time for surgery and patient death.

**TABLE 1: Number of Booking Records in IH cancelled due to Patient Death during the period that the patient was on an IH surgical wait list, by Procedure Group, Fiscal Year 2022/23**

Procedure Group	# of Bookings Cancelled due to Patient Death
Cataract Extraction & Intraocular Lens (IOL) Implant	57
Arthroplasty Knee Replacement	17
Transurethral Resection Prostate	17
Repair Hernia Inguinal	13
Insertion/Removal Stents	11
Other Surgical Procedures (<10 Total Cases)*	102
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>217</b>
% of Bookings Cancelled due to Patient Death that were Waiting Over the Benchmark Wait Time Target	42%

**DATA NOTES & LIMITATIONS:**

- Procedure information shown is based on primary procedure only.
- Data includes elective OR procedures only, both daycare and inpatient cases.
- The data excludes non-OR procedures (z. procedures).
- Data includes only booking records with a cancellation date within Fiscal Year 2022/23 (April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023)
- Wait times are calculated from the booking form received date to the patient expiry date (Patient date of death), excluding patient unavailable dates. Unavailable time is documented dates that the patient is unavailable for surgery due to personal reasons (i.e. out-of-country, not ready, etc.), or for medical reasons.
- The Benchmark wait time targets are associated with the adult/pediatric diagnosis prioritization code provided on the surgical booking request form.
- Procedure Group = Surgical Patient Registry (SPR) Procedure Group
- COVID-19 Caveat for Reports:  
Data from 2019/20 Q4 onwards may have been affected by changes in medical services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, ratings, trends and other statistics should be interpreted with caution in current and future reports.
- Due to patient confidentiality concerns all surgical volumes <10 cases are suppressed.

Appendix: N/A  
Data Source: Picis OR Manager via Surgical Services2 Universe, IH Data Warehouse  
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