

September 15, 2023

NHFOI2023-0812



**Re: Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA)
information on records regarding deaths while awaiting surgery or
procedure.**

The Northern Health Authority received your request for access to records under FIPPA on August 2, 2023. You have requested the following records:

Please provide data on the number of patients that died while on a waiting list for surgery or a procedure in fiscal year 2022-23.

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)

Please find our response attached.

Should you find this response to be unsatisfactory, you may ask the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia (“OIPC”) to review it under section 52 of FIPPA. You have 30 business days from the date of this letter to submit a written Request for Review to OIPC. Instructions for submitting a written Request for Review are enclosed.



If you have any questions or require any clarification regarding the processing of your Freedom of Information request, please contact me at 778-349-5611 or by email at donn.macdougall@northernhealth.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donn MacDougall".

Donn MacDougall
Privacy Officer
Northern Health
778-349-5611

privacy@northernhealth.ca

Instructions for Requesting a Review by Commissioner

Requests for review by the Information and Privacy Commissioner should be directed to:

Mailing Address:

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia
PO Box 9038, Stn. Prov. Govt.
Victoria, BC V8W 9A4

Location:

947 Fort Street
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
Tel: (250) 387 – 5629
Fax: (250) 387 – 1696

If you wish to request a review, please provide the Commissioner's Office with:

1. Your name, address and telephone number, as well as fax number if applicable
2. The reference number assigned to your request (quoted at the top, right-hand corner of the letter)
3. A copy of this letter
4. A copy of your original request for information which you sent to Northern Health and
5. The reasons or grounds upon which you are requesting the review.

*42 distinct patients

Record Patient ID	Procedure_HA_Procedure_Description	Side	Referral_To_Surgeon_Date	Decision_For_Surgery_Date	Surgery_Scheduled_Date	Surgery_Inactive_Date	Target_Wait_Time (Weeks)
1	EYE CATARACT EXTRACTION WITH IOL-PHACO	Left	3/8/2022	9/28/2022 (blank)		1/16/2023	26
1	EYE CATARACT EXTRACTION WITH IOL-PHACO	Right	3/8/2022	9/28/2022 (blank)		1/16/2023	26
2	EYE CATARACT EXTRACTION WITH IOL-PHACO	Right	6/27/2022	12/13/2022 (blank)		1/25/2023	26
2	EYE CATARACT EXTRACTION WITH IOL-PHACO	Left	6/27/2022	12/13/2022 (blank)		1/25/2023	26
2	DENTAL EXTRACTIONS		7/6/2022	10/6/2022 (blank)		1/26/2023	12
3	LESION/CYST/LIPOMA EXCISION LIMB/TRUNK	Left	5/16/2022	6/9/2022 (blank)		6/14/2022	26
4	CYSTOSCOPY (MALE)		7/26/2022	9/19/2022 (blank)		3/19/2023	12
5	BOWEL SIGMOID RESECTION		9/2/2022	9/19/2022 (blank)		9/27/2022	26
6	KNEE TOTAL REPLACEMENT ARTHROPLASTY	Right	9/14/2021	4/26/2022 (blank)		11/9/2022	26
7	HIP TOTAL REPLACEMENT UNCEMENT	Left	1/28/2021	2/11/2021 (blank)		3/1/2023	26
8	DENTAL EXTRACTIONS		5/5/2022	9/1/2022 (blank)		3/7/2023	12
9	VAGINAL BLADDER NECK SLING & CYSTOSCOPY		3/2/2022	8/26/2022 (blank)		2/13/2023	26
10	DENTAL EXTRACTIONS AND RESTORATIONS		8/16/2022	8/16/2022 (blank)		10/19/2022	12
11	PROSTATECTOMY WITH BILATERAL LYMPHADECTOMY RADICAL	Both	5/5/2022	6/24/2022 (blank)		7/20/2022	4
12	UMBILICAL HERNIA REPAIR WITH MESH		3/10/2021	11/9/2021 (blank)		5/13/2022	12
13	INGUINAL HERNIA REPAIR WITH MESH		8/4/2022	10/28/2022 (blank)		11/21/2022	12
14	CIRCUMCISION ADULT OR PEDIATRIC > 7YRS OLD		3/22/2022	7/6/2022 (blank)		8/5/2022	2
15	VENTRAL HERNIA REPAIR		10/19/2020	11/9/2021 (blank)		8/28/2022	4
16	KNEE TOTAL REPLACEMENT ARTHROPLASTY	Left	7/28/2020	2/23/2021 (blank)		4/8/2022	26
17	EYE CATARACT EXTRACTION WITH IOL-PHACO	Right	9/3/2021	2/22/2022 (blank)		4/11/2022	26
18	DENTAL EXTRACTIONS		7/15/2021	11/22/2021 (blank)		8/31/2022	12
19	SINUS SURGERY ENDOSCOPIC COMPUTER ASSIST		11/23/2021	11/29/2021 (blank)		1/1/2023	12
20	MASTECTOMY	Both	8/25/2022	9/19/2022 (blank)		10/31/2022	4
21	URETEROSCOPY URETERIC LASER LITHOTRIPSY	Right	1/11/2022	6/3/2022 (blank)		8/13/2022	6
22	EYE CATARACT EXTRACTION WITH IOL-PHACO	Right	6/23/2021	7/12/2021 (blank)		4/30/2022	26
23	HIP TOTAL REPLACEMENT UNCEMENT	Right	7/19/2021	11/8/2021 (blank)		5/25/2022	12
24	INGUINAL HERNIA REPAIR UNILATERAL(ADULT)	Right	1/11/2022	6/20/2022 (blank)		10/25/2022	12
25	URETEROSCOPY URETERIC STENT REMOVAL		6/10/2021	6/10/2021 (blank)		6/3/2022	12
26	NASAL SEPTUM PERFORATION CLOSURE		1/18/2021	2/17/2021 (blank)		4/5/2022	26
27	EYE CATARACT EXTRACTION WITH IOL-PHACO	Right	9/14/2016	8/25/2021 (blank)		5/28/2022	26
27	EYE CATARACT EXTRACTION WITH IOL-PHACO	Left	9/14/2016	8/25/2021 (blank)		5/28/2022	6
28	KNEE TOTAL REPLACEMENT ARTHROPLASTY	Left	6/29/2020	3/31/2021 (blank)		12/17/2022	26
28	KNEE TOTAL REPLACEMENT ARTHROPLASTY	Right	6/29/2020	3/31/2021 (blank)		12/17/2022	26
29	INGUINAL HERNIA REPAIR WITH MESH	Right	1/24/2022	3/7/2022 (blank)		7/4/2022	12
30	EYE CATARACT EXTRACTION WITH IOL-PHACO	Right	2/16/2010	5/22/2021 (blank)		10/12/2022	26
31	KNEE TOTAL REPLACEMENT ARTHROPLASTY	Right	6/14/2019	6/22/2020 (blank)		4/6/2022	26
32	CYSTOSCOPY URETERIC STENT EXCHANGE		9/8/2021	12/12/2022 (blank)		1/30/2023	4
33	EYE CATARACT EXTRACTION WITH IOL-PHACO	Left	11/4/2021	5/26/2022 (blank)		11/2/2022	26
33	EYE CATARACT EXTRACTION WITH IOL-PHACO	Right	11/4/2021	5/26/2022 (blank)		11/2/2022	26
34	EYE CATARACT EXTRACTION WITH IOL-PHACO	Left	4/30/2021	11/3/2021 (blank)		4/19/2022	26
34	EYE CATARACT EXTRACTION WITH IOL-PHACO	Right	4/30/2021	11/3/2021 (blank)		4/19/2022	26
35	SHOULDER TOTAL ARTHROPLASTY REVERSE	Left	12/2/2021	12/15/2021 (blank)		1/29/2023	26
36	HIP TOTAL REPLACEMENT UNCEMENT	Right	6/17/2021	11/24/2021 (blank)		5/21/2022	26
37	TRANSURETHRAL PROSTATE VAPORIZATION PLASMA BUTTON		9/2/2020	7/21/2022 (blank)		11/29/2022	12
38	LAPAROSCOPIC SALPINGO-OOPHORECTOMY	Both	44595	44701 (blank)		44707	12
39	HIP TOTAL REPLACEMENT UNCEMENT	Left	44341	44505 (blank)		44786	26
40	C-SECTION		44728	44859 (blank)		44911	52
41	SHOULDER TOTAL ARTHROPLASTY REVERSE	Left	44186	44186 (blank)		44833	26
42	HIP TOTAL REPLACEMENT UNCEMENT	Right	44398	44504 (blank)		45013	6