

**Hyrum Sutton** 

Legal & Risk
The Ottawa Hospital

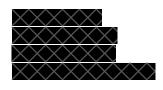
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June 26, 2023





Dear Kristen Schultz,

## Re: Information Release for file numbers A-2023-14 and A-2023-15

This letter is to confirm receipt of your cheque in the amount of \$60.00 representing the access fee for your freedom of information requests as permitted by the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* ("FIPPA") and as indicated in our Decision Letter dated May 26, 2023.

The Decision Letter confirmed that you agreed to limit the scope of these requests to the following:

- Total number of patients who were removed from the wait list for surgery or a procedure in fiscal year 2022-23 due to patient death
- Total number of patients who were removed from the wait list for a diagnostic scan in fiscal year 2022-23 due to patient death

The number of patients who were removed from the wait list for surgery or a procedure in fiscal year 2022-23 due to patient death is 135.

The number of patients who were removed from the wait list for a diagnostic scan in fiscal year 2022-23 due to patient death is 827.

Please note that The Ottawa Hospital does not represent or warrant the accuracy of this information, which is based on available data and has not been validated by a healthcare professional.

We wish to caution you with respect to the implications of this data, as there are many factors that could impact the number of patients on these lists. For example:

 No data is collected or tracked regarding the cause of patient death, nor does the data provided establish delay as a cause of death. It is unknown how many patients died due to causes related to the reason they were on a wait list and how many died due to unrelated causes.



- There is no way of tracking if patients on this list acquired new illnesses, which could impact their health situation or cause their death.
- The wait list for cataract procedures has grown significantly in recent years, due to impacts
  related to the pandemic. This wait list is made up of predominantly elderly patients, many of
  whom have comorbid conditions, which increases their chances of passing away while on the
  list.

Please find a copy of the Fee Statement enclosed with this letter.

If you have any questions, please contact the Hospital's Information and Privacy Office at 613-739-6668 or by email at <a href="mailto:foi@toh.ca">foi@toh.ca</a>. Please use the file numbers stated above in any further correspondence.

Sincerely,

**Hyrum Sutton** 

Legal Counsel, Legal & Risk