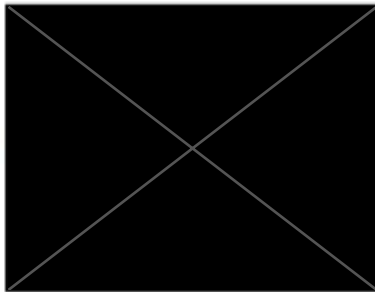


Office of the  
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May 24, 2023



**Re:** *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*  
**Request For:** "FOI – SURGICAL CASES:  
 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 surgery/procedure and case information – 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.)"  
**Time Frame:** April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023  
**File No.:** 2023-20

I am writing in response to your request for access to information described above, pursuant to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* ("the Act"), which was received by Health PEI on April 25, 2023. We are pleased to provide you with access to the available information in the table below.

Please note that the requested information is only available for the specific procedures on which Health PEI reports wait times to the Canadian Institute for Health Information ("CIHI"). In response to your request for case information, we are pleased to provide you with average length of wait time prior to cancellation of procedure. As the number of patients included in the counts for each procedure is very low, release of the specific dates related to individual patients could have impacts to personal privacy.

| <i>Information on Patients Died While Waiting for a Procedure – April 1, 2022- March 31, 2023<sup>1</sup></i> |                           |  |                            |
|---|---------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| <i>Procedure</i>  | <i>Number of patients</i> | <i>Average length of wait (days) prior to cancellation<sup>2</sup></i> | <i>CIHI Benchmark 2022</i> |
| Hip replacement <sup>3</sup>  | 1                         | 151  | 182 days                   |
| Knee replacement <sup>3</sup>   | 2                         | 156  | 182 days                   |
| Hip fracture repair <sup>3</sup>  | 0                         | N/A  | 48 hours                   |
| Cataract surgery <sup>3</sup>   | 8                         | 257  | 112 days                   |
| Other (various)   | 6                         | 194 <sup>4</sup>   | N/A                        |

**Notes**

1. The date of referral to a specialist is not collected by Health PEI.
2. Wait time is defined, for the purposes of reporting to CIHI, as the period of time between the patient accepting the first available appointment for the procedure and the booked date for the procedure (In the current context, it is the period between booking date and cancellation date).
3. The information provided on (hip and knee replacement, hip fracture repair and cataract) includes four (4) Surgeon Requested Dates, five (5) First Scheduled Dates, and one (1) Patient Requested Date and one (1) medical necessity.
4. The data provided is an average length of time prior to the cancellation of the procedure for five (5) of the six (6) patients as the dates were not available for the 6<sup>th</sup> patient. The "other" procedures included five (5) elective and one (1) urgent.

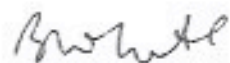
Under Section 60 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner to review this response to your request. Your request for review must be delivered, in writing, to the Commissioner no later than sixty (60) days from the date of this notice (written above), via mail to 149 Kent Street, Suite 301, P.O. Box 2000, Charlottetown, PE, C1A 7N8; or by email to [infoprivacy@assembly.pe.ca](mailto:infoprivacy@assembly.pe.ca).

If you wish to request a review, please provide the Commissioner with the following information:

1. The file number quoted at the top of this notice.
2. A copy of this letter.
3. A copy of your original request for information that you sent to Health PEI.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email Crystal Llewellyn ([cgllewellyn@ihis.org](mailto:cgllewellyn@ihis.org)) or call (902) 569-7734.

Sincerely,



Belinda White, Acting Chief Executive Officer for:

Dr. Michael Gardam, MSc, MD, CM, MSc, FRCPC, CHE  
Chief Executive Officer

c. Crystal Llewellyn, Access to Information & Privacy Analyst