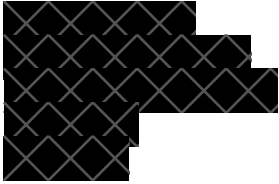


November 29, 2024



Dear Ms. Schulz:

Re: Your request for access to information under Part 2 of The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: Our File Number: PMH-2024-25-17

On October 18, 2024, Prairie Mountain Health received your request for access to the following records:

- 1) Please provide data on the number of patients that died while on a waiting list for surgery or a procedure in fiscal year 2023-24. 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)
- 2) Please provide data on the number of patients that died while on a waiting list for either a diagnostic scan or a consultation with a specialist in fiscal year 2023-24. Please break the data out by procedure and case info – date the patient went on the waiting list, date for the meeting with a specialist or date for diagnostic scan (if scheduled), and date of cancellation. Please also note the government's target time for providing the consultation or scan in question. (Note: many hospitals/health regions were able to identify such cases as they track the reason for cancelled operations).

On November 4, 2024, we contacted you to inform that there would be fees associated with this request and a fee estimate was emailed to you advising that the fee was payable prior to us providing access to these records. We wish to acknowledge and thank you for the payment of the fee, received on November 7, 2024.

I am pleased to inform you that your request for access has been granted in part. Please find the enclosed information for #1, which shows the number of patients that have died while on a waiting list for a surgical procedure, the type of procedure, decision date and the scheduled and cancellation date of the procedure in Prairie Mountain Health (PMH) for the fiscal year 2023-24. Please use caution when interpreting the information under the scheduled date for procedure and date of cancellation due to death columns. In some cases, the scheduled procedure date was cancelled prior to death due to other patient specific reasons. The patient was then placed back on the waiting list for the surgical procedure and the surgery date was not rescheduled prior to patient death.

The information being provided is based on entry into an electronic surgical information system. The date the patient was referred to a specialist is not captured in this system. Consequently, these records do not exist in the manner in which you requested. Accordingly, your request for access to this information is refused under paragraph 12(1)(c)(i) of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

In some facilities in PMH, the scheduled date for the procedure is not collected and/or retained in the electronic surgical information system. This information may be found in the client's health record; however, this would require a manual search and would be deemed an unreasonable invasion of the client's personal health information. Your request for the type of procedure is also refused where the specific type or the low numbers of the procedure, along with details of dates, may identify a patient whose personal health information was collected for purposes of provision of health care. This information falls within the following exceptions to disclosure in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

17(1) The head of a public body shall refuse to disclose personal information to an applicant if the disclosure would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's privacy.

17(2) A disclosure of personal information about a third party is deemed to be an unreasonable invasion of the third party's privacy if,

(a) The personal information is personal health information.

On October 22, 2024, we transferred a portion of your request to Shared Health, specifically a portion from #2, the patients that died while on a waiting list for a diagnostic scan in fiscal year 2023-24 because this information would be in the custody and control of that public body.

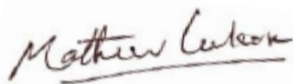
Access to the records from the remaining portion from #2 is refused, specifically, the number of patients that died while waiting for a surgical consultation with a specialist in fiscal year 2023-24 as Prairie Mountain Health (PMH) does not collect this data. This data may exist with the physician's office where the surgical consultations occur which does not fall under the purview of PMH. Accordingly, your request for access is refused under paragraph 12(1)(c)(i) of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Subsection 59(1) of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* provides that you may make a complaint about this decision to the Manitoba Ombudsman. You have 60 days from the receipt of this notice to make a complaint on the prescribed form to:

Manitoba Ombudsman
750 - 500 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg MB R3C 3X1
1-800-665-0531

Should you have any questions related to our response, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Mathew Lukose MSW, RSW
Access and Privacy Coordinator - Prairie Mountain Health
204-578-4359

ML/cd

Number of Patients that have Died While on a Waiting List for a Surgical Procedure in 2023/2024

Type of Procedure	Decision Date	Scheduled Date for Procedure	Date of Cancellation due to Death
17(1); 17(2)(a)	November 17, 2023	No surgery date	February 28, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	December 1, 2023	No surgery date	February 21, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	August 23, 2021	No surgery date	May 10, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	June 30, 2023	No surgery date	August 18, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	April 8, 2022	Not Collected or Retained	January 25, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	October 17, 2022	Not Collected or Retained	June 19, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	October 21, 2022	Not Collected or Retained	June 20, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	November 15, 2022	Not Collected or Retained	June 19, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	December 21, 2022	Not Collected or Retained	June 20, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	November 17, 2022	Not Collected or Retained	June 15, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	February 21, 2023	Not Collected or Retained	June 17, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	September 20, 2023	Not Collected or Retained	February 26, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	February 13, 2023	No surgery date	September 8, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	March 20, 2023	No surgery date	October 18, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	February 7, 2023	No surgery date	October 1, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	May 2, 2023	No surgery date	August 29, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	February 24, 2023	No surgery date	July 5, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	February 3, 2022	No surgery date	January 1, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	March 21, 2023	No surgery date	March 25, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	July 10, 2023	No surgery date	October 3, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	October 26, 2023	No surgery date	August 27, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	February 9, 2023	No surgery date	August 29, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	October 31, 2023	No surgery date	July 29, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	February 15, 2024	No surgery date	August 7, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	October 19, 2023	Not Collected or Retained	November 1, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	April 13, 2023	Not Collected or Retained	April 14, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	June 1, 2023	Not Collected or Retained	June 5, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	August 2, 2023	Not Collected or Retained	August 3, 2023
17(1); 17(2)(a)	June 14, 2023	No surgery date	April 10, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	November 21, 2023	No surgery date	June 4, 2024
17(1); 17(2)(a)	April 28, 2023	No surgery date	June 6, 2024