

May 22, 2025



**Reference Number: 2025-G-014**

Dear Mrs. Kristen Schulz:

Re: *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act*  
**Final Response to Request for Information**

I am writing in response to your request for access to information under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act* to Acute Care Alberta (ACA).

Specifically, your request reads as follows:

*Please provide the most recent data on the number of patients in the province (or best estimate) who are:*

- Currently on a waiting list or waiting to be placed on a waiting list for surgery or a procedure*
- Currently on a waiting list or waiting to be placed on a waiting list for a diagnostic scan*
- Currently on a waiting list or waiting to be placed on a waiting list for an appointment with a specialist*

*Please be sure to note the date the data was compiled. (Date Range for Record Search: From 04/14/2025 To 04/15/2025)*

Please note that nothing in this correspondence (or its attachments) constitutes a waiver of any privilege.

We are pleased to provide access to the records you requested; a copy of the records are enclosed.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the processing of your request, please contact us at [IAS@ahs.ca](mailto:IAS@ahs.ca).

Please note that under section 65 of the *FOIP Act*, you may ask the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Alberta to review any decision made on your request. To request a review, you must complete and deliver a *Request for Review* form within 60 days from the date of this notice to:

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner  
#410, 9925 – 109 Street NW  
Edmonton, AB  
T5K 2J8

The form is available on the Commissioners web site [www.oipc.ab.ca](http://www.oipc.ab.ca) or you can call 1-888-878-4044 (in Edmonton, call 780-422-6860) to request a copy of the form.

If you wish to request a review, please provide the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) with the following information:

1. A copy of this letter.
2. A copy of your original request form that you sent to Acute Care Alberta .
3. A completed OIPC Request for Review Form.

Sincerely,

**Information Access Services**  
**Legal & Privacy, Alberta Health Services**  
Seventh Street Plaza  
5th Floor, North Tower  
10030 – 107 Street  
Edmonton, AB

Enclosure      Record package

## 2025-G-014

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The current waitlist for surgery as of Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April is 75,064

- This reflects all Adult Acute Care sites including where waiting for care at CSF sites (i.e. excludes Pediatric hospitals)
- Cases are excluded where they are GI-Endoscopy only
- Cases are excluded where waiting at a CSF if the “scheduled” date is past the reporting date. This adjustment is done due to a lag in receiving completed records for those cases.
- Cases may count more than once for a patient if they are scheduled for multiple surgeries/procedures to occur on separate dates.

## Diagnostic Imaging Waitlist Data

Patients on Wait List (includes both scheduled and those waiting to be scheduled) as of April 16, 2025

Modality	# of patients
MRI	97,113
CT	72,940
PET	3,969

Source: Tableau – Provincial DI Prospective Waitlist dashboard

As of 16-April-2025

Total Count: 256,019 Referrals Waiting

- 193,136 referrals are on workqueues (awaiting triage, initial scheduling, or in some cases rescheduling).
- 62,883 referrals are scheduled for future initial appointments that have not yet occurred.

#### Limitations to Note

- **Comparability to Past (Important):** These figures should not be compared to counts provided in the past (e.g. 2024 or 2023). This is because there are more departments using Connect Care now, which previously would not have been included in the counts. Since the last time this report was provided, for instance, there have been several Connect Care launches that have added new clinics to the system.
- Only includes clinics that have gone live with Connect Care, and are using the referrals module.
- Does not include referrals waiting for follow-up or treatment after an initial appointment. In Connect Care, referrals normally close and exit this count as soon as they complete their initial consult or appointment. This, I assume, should be fine because follow-ups are not normally considered part of waitlist counts.
- Does not include non-AHS providers and clinics, which is a massive chunk of specialty care in Alberta.
- Does not include data from legacy systems, due to limitations with those systems in capturing referral data.
- Does not include AHS care that is paper-based or otherwise not using enterprise systems to record referrals.
- Includes all types of specialty care providers, not just specialist physicians. This may mean some referrals are for therapists, nurses, social workers, counselors, etc. as well as specialist physicians (we do not know the provider type while the referral is waitlisted).