

30<sup>th</sup> September 2021

s9(2)(a)

Dear s9(2)(a)

### Official Information Act Request for – Cancer Services

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021, you requested the following information:

- 1. The utilisation rate for, outpatient or day stay attendance for IV chemotherapy, expressed as**
  - a) patients per chair per day (plus definition of a chair day)**
  - b) occupancy expressed as percentage of time on average that a chemo chair is occupied, annually for the past 5 years**
- 2. Average waiting time for first treatment of, outpatient or day stay attendance for day stay IV chemotherapy, expressed in days per year for the past 5 years**
- 3. Number of, outpatient or day stay attendance for IV chemotherapy, nursing staff expressed as FTEs annually for the past 5 years in absolute numbers and then per capita**
- 4. Number of oncologists managing, outpatient or day stay attendance for IV chemotherapy, expressed as FTEs annually for the past 5 years in absolute numbers and then per capita**
- 5. Number of people who have had, outpatient or day stay attendance IV chemotherapy, expressed as total, Maori (absolute and as a percentage of the total) and Non Maori (absolute numbers and as a percentage of the total), annually for the past 5 years**

#### Counties Manukau Health Response:

For context Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) employs over 8,500 staff and provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 601,490 people). We see over 118,000 people in our Emergency Department each year, and over 2,000 visitors come through Middlemore Hospital daily.

The below responses for CM Health are for Haematology only as Auckland District Health Board (ADHB) is the regional provider of the Regional Cancer & Blood Service.

For medical oncology, the metro Auckland DHBs (Auckland, Counties Manukau & Waitematā) work together to deliver services closer to home. Through a hub-and-spoke model, patients who previously would have attended the ADHB site can now go to their home DHB district for treatment for breast cancer. It is planned that this way of delivering services will be extended to other tumour streams.

- 1. The utilisation rate for, outpatient or day stay attendance for IV chemotherapy, expressed as**
  - a) patients per chair per day (plus definition of a chair day)**

- b) occupancy expressed as percentage of time on average that a chemo chair is occupied, annually for the past 5 years

#### IV chemo utilisation for the last 5 years

It is not possible to provide the data per person, per chair as our data system does not enable us to capture to that level of detail however as below we can provide the annual volume.

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Annual Volume	688 (Data only available from May onwards)	1440	2375	3019	2254 Jan- June

#### Definition of a Chair Day

Haematology Day Ward has 12 chairs and 4 beds operating 8 hours per day Mon – Fri not weekends or public holidays. Intravenous chemotherapy is provided in the 12 chairs only; the beds are used for procedures such as bone marrow biopsies

#### Annual occupancy per year as a percentage (#weeks per year and chairs per day)

Operating 50 weeks per year /12 chairs

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Annual Volume	688 May - Dec	1440	2375	3019	2254 YTD
Weekly volume	23.39 34 weeks	28.8	47.5	60.38	45.08
Per chair	1.95	2.4	3.96	5.03	3.76
Per day	0.39	0.48	0.79	1.0	0.75

2. Average waiting time for first treatment of, outpatient or day stay attendance for day stay IV chemotherapy, expressed in days per year for the past 5 years

Data retrieved from Faster Cancer Treatment data.

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Average days waiting time 62 day FCT	3.6 days	8.8 days	9.8 days	11.3 days	9.5 Days
Average waiting time 31 day FCT	5.3 days	6.8 days	5.1 days	6.8 days	6.5 days

3. Number of, outpatient or day stay attendance for IV chemotherapy, nursing staff expressed as FTEs annually for the past 5 years in absolute numbers and then per capita
4. Number of oncologists managing, outpatient or day stay attendance for IV chemotherapy, expressed as FTEs annually for the past 5 years in absolute numbers and then per capita

#### Number of FTE

	BUDGET					
	16/17FB	17/18FB	18/19FB	19/20FB	20/21FB	21/22FB
Haematology						
Specialist Medical Officer	4.40	5.40	5.55	7.10	7.10	7.10
Registrars	2.00	2.00	2.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
House Officers	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Senior Nurses	5.85	6.35	7.10	5.10	4.60	4.60

Registered Nurses	3.20	3.20	3.70	3.70	4.20	4.20
Health Service Assistants	1.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Ordinary	2.00	1.00	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
<b>Total Haematology</b>	<b>12.05</b>	<b>12.55</b>	<b>14.30</b>	<b>12.30</b>	<b>12.30</b>	<b>12.30</b>
<b>Per Capita FTE</b>	<b>48.75</b>	<b>46.80</b>	<b>34.08</b>	<b>47.76</b>	<b>47.76</b>	<b>47.76</b>

5. Number of people who have had, outpatient or day stay attendance IV chemotherapy, expressed as total, Maori (absolute and as a percentage of the total) and Non Maori (absolute numbers and as a percentage of the total), annually for the past 5 years

**Ethnicity breakdown of people receiving IV chemotherapy**

Data retrieved from Faster Cancer Treatment data.

Year	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	
	Total	% of Total	Total	% of Total	Total	% of Total	Total	% of Total	Total	% of Total
All	83	100%	74	100%	68	100%	119	100%	74	100%
Maori	11	13%	11	15%	8	12%	19	16%	4	5%
Non Maori	72	87%	63	85%	60	88%	100	84%	70	95%

I trust this information answers your request. You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau Health website. If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Yours sincerely



**Fepulea'i Margie Apa**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Counties Manukau Health**