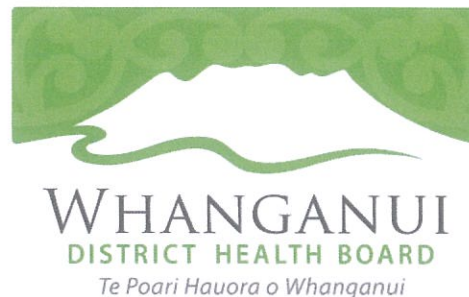


11 December 2019

Hannah Martin  
Journalist  
Stuff NZ



100 Heads Road, Private Bag 3003  
Whanganui 4540, New Zealand

**Via email:** hannah.martin@stuff.co.nz

Dear Ms Martin

### **Official Information Act Request – Prostate cancer treatment**

On 10 October 2019 under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB) with a response due on 8 November 2019. Please accept my sincere apologies for the delay in responding to your request.

I am requesting the following information under the Official Information Act:

- The current waiting time for an appointment following a referral from a GP for a prostate cancer initial consultation
- The current waiting time for a follow-up appointment for a prostate biopsy
- The current waiting time for a post-biopsy appointment to discuss results and treatment options
- The current waiting time for a radical prostatectomy following the post-biopsy appointment for persons with a confirmed prostate cancer diagnosis.

Please only include those patients who undergo prostatectomy surgery who have a **confirmed prostate cancer diagnosis**, not those who require the surgery for other conditions.

#### ***Whanganui District Health Board response:***

**I am requesting the following information under the Official Information Act:**

- **The current waiting time for an appointment following a referral from a GP for a prostate cancer initial consultation**
- **The current waiting time for a follow-up appointment for a prostate biopsy**
- **The current waiting time for a post-biopsy appointment to discuss results and treatment options**
- **The current waiting time for a radical prostatectomy following the post-biopsy appointment for persons with a confirmed prostate cancer diagnosis.**

**Please only include those patients who undergo prostatectomy surgery who have a confirmed prostate cancer diagnosis, not those who require the surgery for other conditions.**

MidCentral and Whanganui District Health Board's Urology Service is responsible for the combined population of MidCentral and Whanganui District Health Boards with the service being provided from two sites, namely Palmerston North and Whanganui hospitals.

The current waiting time for an appointment following a referral from a GP for a prostate cancer initial consultation.

Median	105.00 days
Mean	95.44 days

The current waiting time for a follow-up appointment for a prostate biopsy.

Median	75.00 days
Mean	92.40 days

The current waiting time for a post-biopsy appointment to discuss results and treatment options.

Median	19.00 days
Mean	17.67 days

\*The current waiting time for a radical prostatectomy following the post-biopsy appointment for persons with a confirmed prostate cancer diagnosis.

Median	100 days
Mean	100 days

\*There was just one patient who fell into this category. The patient had their follow up consultation on 5 March 2019 and surgery on 13 June 2019.

Should you have any further queries regarding the above information, please contact our OIA co-ordinator Deanne Holden at [deanne.holden@wdhb.org.nz](mailto:deanne.holden@wdhb.org.nz)

Yours sincerely



Russell Simpson  
**Chief Executive**