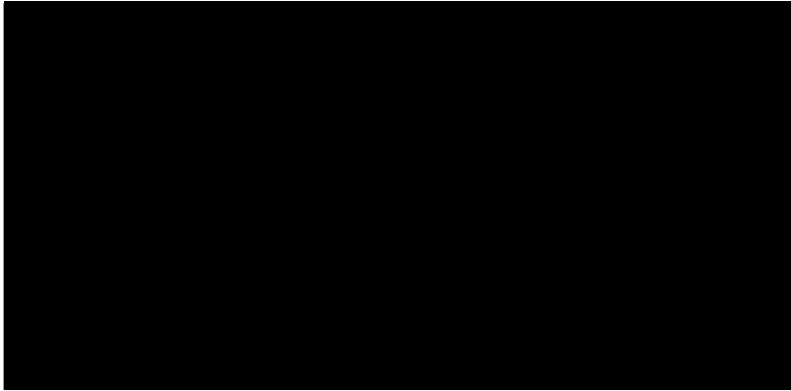


8 December 2020



Re: Threshold for endometriosis, knee and hip surgery

I refer to your Official Information Request dated 16 November 2020 requesting the following information:

Under the OIA, may I please find out what the surgery threshold is for:

➤ **Endometriosis laparoscopic surgery**

All referrals from primary care and other DHBs are accepted based on clinical need. Endometriosis surgery is offered to patients based on a shared and informed decision making process, that takes into consideration the patient's symptoms, the clinical signs, the effects of pain, fertility needs and radiological findings. There is no Clinical Priority Assessment Criteria (CPAC score) threshold for listing a patient for surgery. Surgical waitlist prioritisation is based on perceived clinical urgency as assessed by the CPAC Score.

➤ **Hip and knee replacement**

The ADHB orthopaedic department does not have a threshold figure for patients requiring Total Knee Joint or Total Hip Joint replacement surgery to be placed onto the Surgical waitlist.

A patient is seen in clinic a minimum of once, but can be seen multiple times to be assessed for a Hip or Knee replacement. A discussion occurs between the patient, their support person and the consultant orthopaedic surgeon to understand the severity and impact of their underlying arthritis of the joint. During this conversation it is determined if surgery is the appropriate option based on multiple medical and social factors. Expectations of surgery, rehabilitation time, potential complications are all discussed. Based on this discussion a patient is then added to the waitlist if appropriate. After being added to the waitlist a CPAC score questionnaire is then completed where input from both the surgeon and the patient is factored in. The CPAC score is required to be completed in accordance with the Ministry of Health's (MoH) guidelines.

Can I also find out whether any surgery thresholds have changed in the last five years at your DHB? Can this include what the threshold change was and for what surgery.

There have been no changes to the thresholds for Total Knee Joint or Total Hip Joint replacement surgery or endometriosis laparoscopic surgery in the past 5 years.

There have also been no changes surgery thresholds at ADHB in the last five years to Orthopaedics or Womens' Health in general, or Urology, General Surgery, Cardiac, Vascular, Paediatric surgical services, Neurosurgery, and Otorhinolaryngology. Oral Health is based on the MoH contract specifications.

There have been changes to thresholds for cataract surgery in Ophthalmology in the last five years as follows:

March 2016 commenced using electronic (E)CPAC – 50

October 2016 – changed to 48 and reviewed patients declined back to March 2016

April 2017 – 45 (also reconsidered patients back to October 2016 who had been declined)

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 or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Auckland District Health Boards website.

Yours faithfully



Ailsa Claire, OBE

Chief Executive of Te Toka Tumai (Auckland District Health Board)