

20 December 2022



Official information request HNZ00007299

Tēnā koe

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request of 22 November for information relating to bariatric surgery. Specifically:

I would like to request information on the current waitlist times for Bariatric Surgery in Auckland District Public Health sector, including referral waitlist times from GPs if possible.

Response

The waitlist time for surgery is calculated from when the decision was made that the patient needed surgery to the date of the surgery and as such it represents the time on a waitlist for surgery. The decision is known as the Decision-To-Treat (DTT).

The average current time on the waitlist for this procedure at Te Toka Tumai Auckland is 76 days from DTT. The first day is taken as the date of the letter advising that the patient had been added to the surgical waitlist.

Please note patients referred for potential bariatric surgery have complex health needs requiring extensive care or treatment prior to surgery going ahead.

Te Toka Tumai has a bariatric pathway which involves a number of other assessments and interventions which must occur before DTT is made.

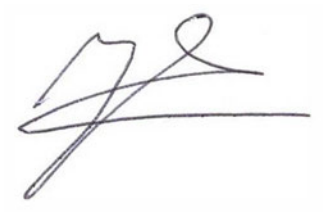
The average time from GP referral to DTT surgically is 827 days or 27.1 months.

Please note that this data includes some outliers due to individual patients' clinical situations. If these few patients were removed from the dataset, the average time from GP referral to DTT surgically would be 733 days or 24 months.

If you have any questions, you can contact us at h.nzOIA@health.govt.nz. If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Te Whatu Ora may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available on our website.

Nāku iti noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MS', written on a light-colored rectangular background.

Dr Mike Shepherd
Interim District Director
Te Toka Tumai Auckland Te Whatu Ora