

24 November 2022

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Official Information Request HN200006013

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request of 28 October 2022 for information relating to Skin Cancer Care:

The information sought in this request is to be used as part of a report by the Rotorua Daily Post about waitlists for skin cancer care at Te Whatu Ora Hauora a Toi Bay of Plenty.

It is understood elements of the requested information might not be considered public information. If this is the case, I would ask each element is considered separately, described as best it can be and reasons for any information being declined being set against the information sought.

Please provide:

The current size of the waiting list for all skin cancer referrals to Te Whatu Ora Hauora a Toi Bay of Plenty as follows:

- 1. Initial consultation appointment for suspected or confirmed BCC, SCC and melanoma**
122 patients
- 2. Surgical appointment for melanoma excision**
6 patients
- 3. Surgical appointment for BCC or SCC excision**
BCC excision 32 patients
SCC excision 14 patients

Note: Patients with a dual diagnosis have been included for each diagnosis.

4. To what extent, if any, does Te Whatu Ora Hauora a Toi Bay of Plenty fund GPs or private providers to carry out any SCC, BCC or melanoma excisions on an annual basis.

We have two Agreements in place. One with EBPHA and the other with WBOPPHO for minor skin surgery.

GPSI Services include the following:

- a) treatment of pigmented lesions when histological testing or other investigations indicates the following target histology types:
 - i) melanoma
 - ii) melanoma in situ
 - iii) dysplastic naevus
 - iv) other pigmented cutaneous malignancy.
- b) treatment of non-pigmented lesions when histological testing or other investigations indicate the following histology types:
 - i) basal cell carcinoma (BCC)
 - ii) squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) including in situ
 - iii) other non-pigmented cutaneous malignancies including keratocanthomas.

5. The number of melanoma, BCC and SCC skin cancer diagnoses each year for the past five years (2016-2021) at Te Whatu Ora Hauora a Toi Bay of Plenty

These numbers excluded private activity, all Te Whatu Ora Hauora a Toi BOP public funded patients who have treatment by trained primary care providers and excludes patients who had diagnostic procedures which may have subsequently had a diagnosis but not required follow up. This only includes patients into the ambulatory setting where the presenting problem was SCC, BCC and melanoma. Diagnosis is not coded unless patient has had an inpatient event.

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
*	*	407	512	489	461

Pursuant to clause 18(e) of the Official Information Act Hauora a Toi Bay of Plenty cannot provide this information on the grounds that the information does not exist. We are unable to provide this data as reporting is by presenting problem/confirmed cancer only and we did not report BCC/SCC or Melanoma as a presenting problem in 2016/2017.

If you have any questions, you can contact us at hnzOIA@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



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Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
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