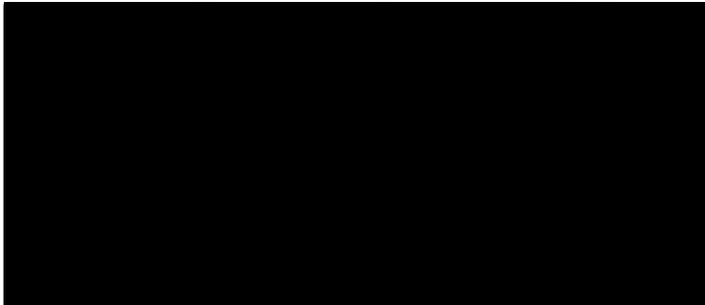


15 April 2021



**Re: Official Information Act request – Oncology Beds**

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 26 March 2021, requesting the following information:

**Further to annual review of the Ministry of Health and their subsequent instruction to ask each DHB under section 12 of the Official Information Act 1982, I seek the following information:**

**1. What is the average utilisation rate, in day stay oncology beds, for day stay administered cancer medicines?**

Auckland DHB manages the Regional Cancer and Blood Service providing care for people who reside in the Northern region.

The average chair utilisation rate for haematology is 77%.

For medical oncology, we work together with the other metro Auckland DHBs (Waitematā DHB and Counties Manukau DHB) to deliver medical oncology services closer to home. Through a hub and spoke model, patients who previously would have attended the Auckland DHB site can now go to their home DHB site for treatment for breast cancer. We plan to extend this way of delivering service to other tumour streams.

The average chair utilisation rate for medical oncology is:

- 81% at the Waitematā DHB and Counties Manukau DHB sites, and
- 62% at the Auckland DHB site.

Note that the current Auckland DHB percentage is lower than the other sites due to released capacity through local delivery of oncology services.

2. For the next financial year, from an operating pressure perspective, what is the projected increase in the cost of delivering services due to general price inflation expressed as a percentage?
3. For the upcoming financial year, from an operating pressure perspective, what is the projected impact of wage and service provider negotiations, expressed as a percentage?

Our projected cost increases for the next financial years average 2% to cover both staff and consumables, but are subject to potential fluctuation/distortion due to supply chain disruptions etc. and adherence to national bargaining parameters for the various employment groups.

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 response, may be published on the Auckland DHB website.

Yours faithfully



Ailsa Claire, OBE  
Chief Executive of Te Toka Tumai (Auckland District Health Board)