



Faster cancer treatment indicators were introduced in July 2012, requiring district health boards to collect standardised information on patients who had been referred urgently with a high suspicion of cancer. For more on this please see: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/cancer/previous-cancer-initiatives/faster-cancer-treatment>

The data includes patients who meet the following criteria:

- eligible for treatment in New Zealand
- their treatment pathway started inside the New Zealand health system
- are under the care of adult services and are 16 or older
- have received treatment for metastatic cancer where the primary site is unknown
- are under the care of adult services and are 16 or older at the date of first cancer treatment
- have received a first treatment (or other management) for cancer that is publicly funded, in the reporting period
- have been triaged as having a high suspicion of cancer and as having a need to be seen within two weeks

| Tumour type                  | Average days between referral and diagnosis by referral year |      |      |      |
|------------------------------|--|------|------|------|
|                              | 2018   | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| Brain/Central Nervous System | 37   | 30   | 21   | 30   |
| Breast                       | 43   | 33   | 31   | 33   |
| Gynaecological               | 46   | 47   | 47   | 45   |
| Haematological               | 44   | 36   | 31   | 26   |
| Head and Neck                | 50   | 46   | 59   | 43   |
| Lower intestinal             | 43   | 46   | 55   | 41   |
| Lung                         | 40   | 41   | 35   | 35   |
| Other                        | 29   | 173  | 70   | 38   |
| Sarcoma                      | 64   | 53   | 47   | 78   |
| Skin                         | 64   | 41   | 55   | 61   |
| Upper gastrointestinal       | 53   | 48   | 39   | 28   |
| Urological                   | 119  | 138  | 125  | 94   |

We trust you find this information useful.

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 sincerely,



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 Chief Executive  
 Auckland District Health Board