

3 September 2021

Jane Ludemann  
Trustee  
Cure Our Ovarian Cancer

**Via email:** [office@cureouvariancancer.org](mailto:office@cureouvariancancer.org)



Tēnā koe Jane

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### **Official Information Act Request – OIA 13696 Ultrasound Wait Times**

On 6 August 2021, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB):

I would like to request the following under the OIA:

Please provide the current wait time for an urgent, semi urgent and routine transvaginal ultrasound (or just ultrasound generally if your data does not make the distinction)

The criteria for evaluating the urgency of a request (general, or ovarian if you have)

The current Health Pathways criteria for your DHB for ovarian cancer

If you are able to grant us permission to access Health Pathways for your area that would be appreciated.

The information will be used in our submission to the Health Select Committee.

### **Whanganui District Health Boards response:**

#### **The current wait time for an urgent, semi urgent and routine transvaginal ultrasound (or just ultrasound generally if your data does not make the distinction)**

- Urgent - under 1 week
- Semi urgent - within 2 weeks
- Routine - 8 months for community, 6 weeks outpatients

Please note: we have recently recruited an additional sonographer, and are in the process of purchasing an additional ultrasound machine to reduce the wait times outlined.

#### **The criteria for evaluating the urgency of a request (general, or ovarian if you have)**

- Urgent - post menopausal bleed, if the routine states, malignancy
- Semi urgent – if the referral states, ovarian cyst, or endometriosis
- Routine - Female irregular bleeding, irregular menstrual cycle, lost marina strings

#### **The current Health Pathways criteria for your DHB for ovarian cancer**

We do not have a current Health Pathway established for our DHB, however our GPs will use a regional agreed written criteria "Community referred radiology access criteria" which matches to the criteria above.

Should you have any further queries about the above information, please contact our OIA co-ordinator Anne Phoenix at [anne.phoenix@wdhb.org.nz](mailto:anne.phoenix@wdhb.org.nz).

Ngā mihi

Russell Simpson  
**Chief Executive**

Chief Executive | Phone 06 348 3140