

23 June 2023

s 9(2)(a)

Your request for official information, reference: HNZ00019919

Thank you for your email on 25 May 2023, asking for information about orchidectomies, which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Please find a response to each part of your request below, by district.

“Information on the number of people who have been assessed and referred for a Bilateral Scrotal Orchidectomy, within the Auckland region (formerly Waitematā, Auckland, and Counties Manukau District Health Boards), who have not undergone the procedure yet.

When disclosing this information please ensure: - That the number of cisgender men and transgender persons who are on this waitlist are shown separately, for the sake of contrast and comparison - That the average wait time of both groups from date of referral to date of surgery is indicated - That individuals who have been referred to a urology department but not yet been booked for the surgery, as well as individuals who have been booked in but have yet to receive the operation, are included (these do not need to be shown separately) Additionally, please include the number of orchidectomies that have been performed each year from 2018 to the present day and, if possible, separate these figures by gender identity (ie. into categories of 'cisgender' and 'transgender') as well.”

Waitematā

Waitematā does not perform orchidectomies and therefore has no information to provide on the above.

Counties Manukau

Please note, all data less than 5 has been reported this way to protect the potential of patients being identifiable. This information is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act to protect the privacy of natural persons.

All patients on waitlist for urology scrotal surgery, that are still waiting

Procedure	Cisgender	Transgender
Bilateral Orchidectomy	<5	0

The average wait time for cisgender and transgender from referral to date of surgery including those who have been referred to a urology department but not yet been booked for the surgery as well as individuals who have been booked in but have yet to receive the operation.

Gender Category	Average waitlist duration in days
Cisgender	54
Transgender	140
Total	101

All patients booked for bilateral orchidectomy and had their surgery performed

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Cisgender	<5	<5	0	<5	<5	0	6
Transgender	0	0	<5	0	0	<5	<5

Auckland

Te Toka Tumai Auckland provides orchidectomies for gender affirmation surgery. We also provide orchidectomies for Counties Manukau patients who may require more specialist anaesthetic care than is available at Manukau Super Clinic. We do not provide orchidectomies to cis-males unless they have a testicular cancer diagnosis.

Please note that patients are not referred for an orchidectomy. They are referred for a urology first specialist appointment (FSA).

*Number of cisgender men and transgender person who are on the waitlist.
The average wait time for both groups from date of referral to date of surgery.*

There are currently no patients on the waitlist.

What is the number of individuals who have been referred to a urology department but not yet booked for surgery, as well as individuals who have been booked in but have yet to receive the operation.

This part of your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist. The bilateral scrotal orchidectomy procedure is only considered after an individual has met with the urology first specialist service and a decision has been made to book them for this procedure. The patient is then entered into the booking system.

What is the number of orchidectomies that have been performed each year from 2018 to present (separated by gender identity – cisgender or transgender)

Due to the small numbers of patients who have undergone bilateral scrotal orchidectomies between 2018 to the present with no insertion of prosthetics, information on the breakdown of gender identity by year as well as all data less than five is withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons. However, we can advise that overall, 9 out of 30 completed operations from 2018 to present have a gender recorded as male.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Number	5	<5	<5	7	9	<5	30

How to get in touch

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.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Michael Cleary
Acting OIA Manager
Government Services