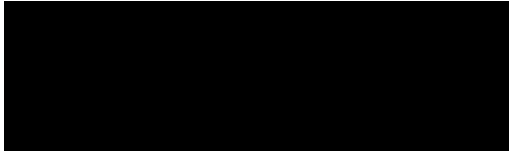


28 May 2021



Dear 

Re: OIA request – Prostrate Specific Membrane Antigen (PSMA) Positron Emission Tomography-Computed Tomography (PET-CT)

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 11 May seeking information from Waitematā District Health Board (DHB) about funding for PSMA PET-CT.

Before responding to your specific questions, it may be useful to provide some context about our services.

Waitematā is the largest and one of the most rapidly growing DHBs in the country, serving a population of around 650,000 across the North Shore, Waitakere and Rodney areas. We are the largest employer in the district, employing around 8,600 people across more than 80 locations.

In addition to providing care to our own resident population, we are the Northern Region provider of forensic mental health services and child rehabilitation services, plus the metro Auckland provider of child community dental services and community alcohol and drug services.

In response to your request, we are able to provide the following information:

- 1. Please can you advise whether PSMA (Prostate Specific Membrane Antigen) PET-CT is funded by your DHB or only available privately?***
- 2. If publicly-funded, please can you advise whether there are criteria that must be met. For example:***
 - for staging of high risk and unfavourable intermediate risk prostate cancer before definitive local therapy.***
 - for restaging of PSA recurrence ($\geq 0.2\text{ng/ml}$).***

Publicly-funded PSMA PET-CT is available through Waitematā DHB for suitable cases. These are all discussed and approved at a multi-disciplinary team meeting (MDT) prior to being ordered. The MDT is guided by criteria set by the PET committee at Auckland DHB, although Waitematā DHB's MDT retains the ability to recommend exceptions from the criteria. The criteria used are:

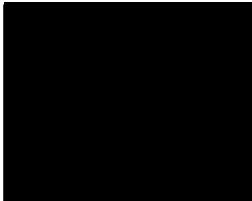
- high-risk prostate cancer (PSA>20, Gleason >7, T3c) to determine if the patient is a candidate for radical prostatectomy
- biochemical recurrence (PSA > 0.5) after definitive treatment, Conventional Imaging Indeterminate.

I trust that this information is helpful.

Waitematā DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community understanding of how we are delivering publicly funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released.

If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider your views.

Yours sincerely



**Executive Director Hospital Services
Waitematā District Health Board**