



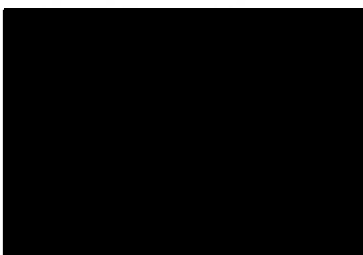
**Waitematā**  
District Health Board

**Best Care for Everyone**

**DHB Corporate Office**

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20 June 2019



Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: Official Information Act request – Details of sonographers employed by Waitematā DHB**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request of 24 May 2019 seeking details from Waitematā District Health Board (DHB) in relation to sonographers employed by the DHB.

Waitematā DHB serves the largest population of any district health board in New Zealand, currently standing at more than 630,000 people.

Our DHB has a workforce of more than 7,500 staff spread across more than 80 sites. In addition to caring for our own population, we are also the metropolitan Auckland provider of forensic psychiatry, child disability services, child community dental services and community alcohol and drug services.

The data you have requested is provided in the table below. This information was collated from several services from the date the request was received.

<b>Data requested</b>	<b>For the year ending 30 June 2017</b>	<b>For the year ending 30 June 2018</b>	<b>For the year ending 30 June 2019 (to date)</b>
Actual FTE	11	14.2	16
Budgeted FTE (Sonographers)	17	19.5	19
Actual FTE (Trainee)	6.9	5.8	8
Budgeted FTE (Trainee)	5.4	4.5	5.0
Total number of Trainee Sonographers	3	1	2
Total examinations (all sub-categories)	18041 - Radiology	18176 – Radiology	17854 – Radiology 8808 - Cardiology
Total examinations (ultrasound/general)	14493	14466	14701

Total examinations (cardiac)	8007	8575	8808
Total examinations (vascular)	2746	2802	2321
Total examinations (paediatric echocardiographs)			Waitematā DHB does not undertake paediatric echocardiographs.
Total expenditure on overseas recruitment of Sonographers	10546	6750	5532
Sonographer Vacancies (all sub-categories)	4.5	6.6	0
Waitlist in days (ultrasound/general)	Not available* (see note below)	Not available* (see note below)	22
Waitlist in days (cardiac)	Not available* (see note below)	Not available* (see note below)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• P2 34 patients waiting 120-224 days</li> <li>• 661 patients waiting up to 120 days</li> <li>• P3 8 patient waiting 300-478 days</li> <li>• 604 patients waiting 11-290 days</li> <li>• P7 surveillance up to date</li> </ul>
Waitlist in days (vascular)	Not available* (see note below)	Not available* (see note below)	22
Waitlist in days (paediatric echocardiographs)			Waitematā DHB does not undertake paediatric echocardiographs.

Note: Waitlist information is only available in full on the day a report is run, therefore we are unable to provide past information. Some waitlist information is available in our Hospital Advisory Committee papers in accordance with our Annual plan targets. <https://www.waitematadhb.govt.nz/about-us/leadership/committee-meetings/>

### Further trainee workforce queries

1. *In total, how many trainee sonographers have qualified since 1 January 2017?*

Six sonographers have qualified since January 2017. Another four are due to qualify by the end of the 2019 calendar year.

2. *How many of those trainees who qualified since 1 January 2017 remain employed by the DHB at 22 May 2019?*

Five trainees who have qualified since 1 January 2017 remained employed by the DHB as at 22 May 2019.

3. *Please provide the total length(s) of post-qualification service, in months, for each of those Trainees who qualified since 1 January 2017 but who are no longer employed by the DHB at 24 May 2019.*

One trainee is no longer employed with the Waitematā DHB. They qualified in November 2016 and left 12 months later.

4. Further qualified workforce queries

4a) Please provide anonymised data on the following for all non-trainee sonographers as at 24 May 2019:

- Duration of service.
- Salary scale position, or gross remuneration (if above scale).
- Whether the employee is a 'Specialist' under the Sonographers' MECA.

Duration of service and salary steps for all non-trainee sonographers (by headcount and excluding trainees):

Service	Number of staff	Salary steps
Under 1 year	2	5 and 7
1-2 years	2	5 and 7
2-3 years	5	3,4,5,6,7
3-4 years	3	1 (x2) and 2
4-5 years	4	4, 11(x2) and one role is on an IEA
5-6 years	1	4
6-7 years	0	
7-8 years	0	
8-9 years	0	
9-10 years	1	4
10-11 years	2	7 and 8
11-12 years	1	11
12-13 years	1	7
13-14 years	0	
14-15 years	0	
15-16 years	0	
16-17 years	0	
17-18 years	0	
18-19 years	1	6
19-20 years	3	8 (x2) and 10
32-33 years	1	10
38-39 years	1	10

*4b) In total, how many sonographers have been recruited from overseas since 1 January 2017? Please also provide the totals for each country of origin.*

Since 1 January 2017, a total of three sonographers have joined Waitematā DHB from the USA and another has joined from India.

Waitematā DHB, like other agencies across the state sector, supports the open disclosure of information to assist the public's understanding of how we are delivering publicly-funded health care. 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 feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider them.

We trust this reply satisfies your request.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fiona McCarthy', written over the printed name.

**Fiona McCarthy**  
**Director Human Resources**  
**Waitematā District Health**