



22 December 2021



Dear [REDACTED]

Re: OIA request – CA-125 blood tests

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 20 December 2021 seeking information from Waitematā District Health Board (DHB) about the number of CA-125 blood tests in 2020.

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. Can you please tell me what the total requests during the 12 months of 2020 were for CA-125 blood tests in your DHB region? (If you use a different reporting year calendar, that's ok - just specify the timeline).**
- 2. Amendment received 20 December: In addition to the total CA-125 blood tests requested (if you don't collect data on requests, total performed is ok) in your DHB region over the 12 months of 2020 (or whatever 12-month period your reporting calendar covers, so long as you specify the timeline). Can you also please include the estimated total population your DHB serves?**

Waitematā DHB's Laboratory performed 430 CA125 blood tests in the year 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020. CA-125 is a protein found in ovarian cancer cells, with the amount of cancer antigen 125 in the bloodstream determined by a blood test.

As noted above, Waitematā DHB serves a population of approximately 650,000.

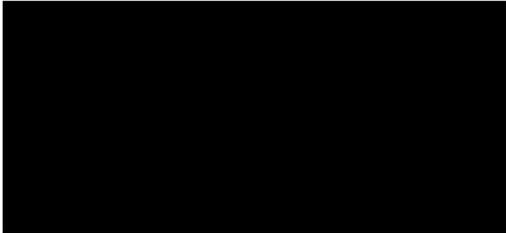
I trust that this information is helpful.

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



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