MINISTRY OF HEALTH
MANATŪ HAUORA

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20 June 2011

Dear General Manager Funding and Planning

Policy Priority 5 - Chemotherapy Waiting Times reporting 2011/12

I am writing to confirm the reporting requirements for Policy Priority 5 – Shorter Waits for Chemotherapy Treatment for the 2011/12 year.

From 1 July 2011 the Policy Priority is 'everyone needing chemotherapy treatment will have this within **four** weeks' from decision to treat.

DHBs are required to report quarterly on achievement of Policy Priority 5. DHBs are also asked to provide monthly reports on achievement against Policy Priority 5 and wait times from referral to first specialist assessment (FSA). Reporting of assessment and treatment will be completed by the DHB of service.

Further detail on the reporting requirements is provided below.

Reporting requirements – from Referral to FSA

The reporting requirements for referral to FSA include:

- All medical oncology and haematology referrals
- Reporting against wait-time bands for categories 1 to 4
- Reporting on volumes for category 5 (advice only).

Reporting requirements – from Decision to Treat to Treatment

The reporting requirements for decision to treat to treatment include:

- All medical oncology and haematology patients who receive chemotherapy
- All parenteral (IV and subcutaneous) therapies requiring a day stay visit
- Reporting against wait-time bands
- Providing reasons for delays for patients who wait between 4 to 6 weeks and greater than 6 weeks using the exception codes.

The reporting requirements do not include:

- Oral therapies
- Parenteral therapies not requiring a day stay visit
- In-patient administered chemotherapy
- Chemotherapy provided for non-cancer conditions.

The reporting template, the Policy Priority technical definitions, and prioritisation criteria are available on the National Service Framework Library at this address - http://www.nsfl.health.govt.nz/apps/nsfl.nsf/pagesmh/401.

If you require further assistance or information please contact Jane Lyon (jane_lyon@moh.govt.nz).

Yours sincerely

Deborah Woodley
National Programme Manager, Cancer

Cc: DHB Cancer Centre Managers
Medical Oncology Work Group
Haematology Work Group.