

Question on Notice

No. 53

Asked on 23 February 2022

MR R MOLHOEK ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON Y D'ATH)—

QUESTION

With reference to Question on Notice No. 1485 of 2021—

Will the Minister provide the amount of ambulance 'lost time' (reported separately by Local Area Service Network and calendar month) from January 2016 to January 2022?

ANSWER

Queensland Health publicly reports a variety of data including Patient Off-Stretcher Time (POST) against the Queensland Health approved key performance measures on the Hospital Performance website. The website outlines a range of information for Queenslanders to understand the performance of their health system.

I am advised that Lost Time is the total amount of time elapsed between the agreed POST target (within 30 minutes) and the time that a patient is transferred off stretcher to the care of the Hospital and Health Service clinical staff. It should be noted that throughout the whole process, patients are cared for, by qualified medical professionals.

The health system is dynamic, and its performance is determined by a myriad of different internal and external factors, just like in any other health system across the country. I am advised that POST information should be read in conjunction with the internal and external factors occurring at the relevant time. As such, I am advised that to provide six years of data, as the member is seeking, with the adequate explanations of the internal and external factors which were occurring at the time, to ensure the information is interpreted and understood correctly, is resource intense and is not appropriate.

While the information sought is not a publicly reportable performance measure, but rather an internal management tool, I am able to provide the member with 2020 and 2021 calendar year information. It should be noted that the health system experienced a number of internal and external factors during 2021, namely the impact of COVID-19 on the system. It should also be noted that the complexity of our patients who attend our hospitals over this time has been increasing, and I am advised that during 2021, Queensland Health saw 2,492,959 total presentations to our Emergency Departments.

Sunshine Coast	1,135	1,201	1,490	1,315	1,243	1,302	1,289	927	824	755	735	817
Torres And Cape *												
Townsville	96	150	161	103	185	124	142	188	167	168	173	134
West Moreton	857	1,242	1,542	1,214	1,532	1,102	1,073	965	1,251	1,056	1,259	1,542
Wide Bay	234	241	254	251	289	379	273	372	337	364	277	365

Source: QAS eARF POST - Hospitals (Cognos Cube) 24/02/2022

Note: POST performance data includes Code 1 and 2 incidents with a valid at hospital interval (>0 and <480 mins) and completed records only.

Note: POST data is point-in-time and subject to change as records become available for reporting.

Note: Totals reported against LASNs prior to July 2021 captured results for the reporting hospitals within their respective catchment areas. There is no change to those reporting arrangements with the move to QAS Districts and Regions from July 2021.

* Nil Reportable Hospitals.