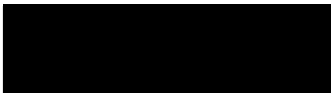




17 August 2020



Dear [REDACTED]

Re: OIA request – Information regarding pharmacy staff

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 24 July 2020 by Waitematā DHB relating to pharmacy assistants, trainee pharmacy technicians, pharmacy technicians, intern pharmacists and pharmacists.

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

Waitematā DHB serves a population of more than 630,000 across the North Shore, Waitakere and Rodney areas, the largest and one of the most rapidly growing DHBs in the country. We are the largest employer in the district, employing around 8,500 people across more than 80 locations.

In addition to providing services to 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.

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

1. **The actual number of pharmacists – i.e. headcount.**
2. **The actual number of pharmacy technicians – i.e. headcount.**
3. **The actual number of pharmacy assistants – i.e. headcount.**

	Waitematā DHB as at 27 July 2020	Count
1.	Pharmacist	99
2.	Pharmacy technician	27
3.	Pharmacy assistant	0

4. **The number of employees, broken down into pharmacists, technicians and assistants on each salary step**

As above, there is no-one employed in the category of “pharmacy assistant” at Waitematā DHB. The breakdown of staff in each salary step for pharmacists and technicians is as follows:

Salary step	Technician	Pharmacist
1	[s.9(2)(a)]	
2	4	
3	6	[s.9(2)(a)]
4	3	3
5	12	8
6		5
7		19
8		9
9		6
10		10
11		15
12		6
13		7
14		6
15		[s.9(2)(a)]
16		[s.9(2)(a)]

Information for categories with fewer than three (3) individuals have been withheld under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act 1982 on the basis that withholding the information is necessary to protect the privacy of the employee.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of the decisions taken in providing this response. Information about how to seek a review is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

5. For continuing professional development for DHB-employed pharmacy staff:

- a. Total budget for 2018 and 2019 financial years
- b. Total spend for 2018 and 2019 financial years
- c. A breakdown of
 - i. Spend on training for qualifications including technicians level 5 and 6, pharmacist prescriber and postgraduate diploma in clinical pharmacy.
 - ii. Spend on all other professional development.

Pharmacy staff have access to the Professional Development Fund, which is budgeted centrally for personal development programmes/education.

There is a budget with the service for postgraduate clinical training essential for job specification.

Financial year	2018	2019
Professional development fund actual expenditure	\$16,642	\$15,839
Postgraduate clinical pharmacy training actual expenditure	\$14,141	\$18,669
Postgraduate training budget	\$15,000	\$15,000

Note, the majority of spending from the Pharmacy budget covers fees for either the postgraduate pharmacist clinical certificate or the diploma.

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



Fiona McCarthy
Director Human Resources
Waitematā District Health Board