



26 May 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: OIA request – Alcohol-related harm

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 29 April 2022 seeking information from Waitematā District Health Board (WDHB) about treatment for alcohol-related harm.

You requested the following information:

- 1. Please provide a yearly breakdown of how many people were treated from 2012-2022 (to date) for alcohol-related harm*
- 2. Please provide a yearly breakdown of age groups of those treated in your DHB between 2012-2022 for alcohol-related harm.*
- 3. Please provide a yearly breakdown of the ethnicity of those treated in your DHB from 2012-2022 for alcohol-related harm.*
- 4. Please provide a yearly breakdown of age groups of those admitted to your DHB from 2012-2022 for alcohol-related harm.*
- 5. Please provide a yearly breakdown of ethnicity of those admitted to your DHB from 2012-2022 for alcohol-related harm.*
- 6. Please provide a yearly breakdown of age groups of those admitted to your DHB from 2012-2022 for alcohol-related harm.*
- 7. Please provide a yearly breakdown of the cost for each person treated/admitted in your DHB for alcohol-related causes.*
- 8. Please provide a breakdown of how many patients were admitted to Emergency Departments where alcohol was determined to be a factor in their admission from 2012-2022.*

For the purposes of this OIA request, the yearly breakdown time period of 2012-2022 covers the period 1 January 2012 to 3 May 2022 (inclusive).

While the total numbers provided is correct, the ethnicity breakdowns may be slightly different to our previous OIA responses published online due to data coding updates.

Questions 4 and 6 were duplicated. However, we have provided you the 'yearly breakdown of how many people were admitted to Waitematā DHB from 2012-2022' in line with your question relating to the 'yearly breakdown of how many people were treated at your DHB from 2012-2022'.

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 more than 8,900 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:

The following International Classification of Diseases (ICD) codes were used in providing the following data, which includes occasions where patients presented either via an emergency department (ED) or were admitted to hospital for treatment of longer-term conditions.

ICD code	ICD short description
F102	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, dependence syndrome
F105	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, psychotic disorder
F108	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, other mental and behavioural disorders
F103	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, withdrawal state
F104	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, withdrawal state with delirium
F106	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, amnesic syndrome
F101	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, harmful use
F100	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, acute intoxication
F107	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, residual and late-onset psychotic disorder
F109	Mental and behavioural disorders due to use of alcohol, unspecified mental and behavioural disorder
T513	Fusel oil
T510	Ethanol
T519	Alcohol, unspecified
T511	Methanol
T512	2-Propanol
T518	Other alcohols
X45	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to alcohol
X65	Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to alcohol

Where numbers are five or fewer, we are withholding the exact number under section 9(2)(a) of the Official Information Act to protect the privacy of the individuals involved.

We have considered whether the public interest in releasing this information outweighs the need for individual privacy and have concluded that it does not. The general expectation that medical records will be kept confidential means that any patients concerned are entitled to rely on the DHB not to create the risk that they will be identified.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to seek a review is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

1. Please provide a yearly breakdown of how many people were treated from 2012-2022 year – to-date (YTD) 3 May 2022 for alcohol-related harm

Number of people treated at Waitematā DHB hospitals for alcohol-related harm 2012-2022										
2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 YTD
1,693	1,496	1,587	1,694	1,779	1,783	1,947	1,992	2,139	2,150	575

2. Please provide a yearly breakdown of age groups of those treated in your DHB between 2012-2022 for alcohol-related harm.

Number of people by age group treated at Waitematā DHB hospitals for alcohol-related harm 2012-2022											
Age Group	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 YTD
0-14 Yrs	14	18	11	13	9	9	10	23	9	15	≤5
15-19 Yrs	199	148	172	132	160	124	123	146	129	118	28
20-24 Yrs	209	160	176	196	165	182	180	172	208	172	44
25-29 Yrs	111	104	94	111	133	157	157	147	165	152	34
30-34 Yrs	107	91	100	88	92	98	130	139	165	152	37
35-39 Yrs	129	73	106	108	119	134	148	149	179	186	51
40-44 Yrs	173	149	157	142	169	122	153	147	151	186	46
45-49 Yrs	182	142	138	153	179	178	212	221	243	192	49
50-54 Yrs	137	179	168	157	201	182	177	214	188	197	79
55-59 Yrs	133	153	126	173	164	192	222	167	185	189	37
60-64 Yrs	77	82	95	132	144	118	116	103	135	168	48
65+ Yrs	222	197	244	289	244	287	319	364	382	423	119

3. Please provide a yearly breakdown of the ethnicity of those treated in your DHB from 2012-2022 for alcohol-related harm.

Number of people by ethnicity treated at Waitematā DHB hospitals for alcohol-related harm 2012-2022											
Ethnicity	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 YTD
Asian	74	71	76	85	104	91	127	177	162	189	47
European	1,287	1,169	1,235	1,303	1,332	1,340	1,429	1,462	1,545	1,572	441
Maori	249	188	189	216	233	237	273	246	298	259	60
Other	29	16	19	27	40	30	31	32	37	36	7
Pacific Peoples	54	52	68	63	70	85	87	75	97	94	20

4. Please provide a yearly breakdown of those admitted to your DHB from 2012-2022 for alcohol-related harm.

Number of people admitted to Waitematā DHB hospitals for alcohol-related harm 2012-2022											
2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 YTD	
448	456	489	526	542	582	668	691	795	837	227	

5. Please provide a yearly breakdown of age groups of those admitted to your DHB from 2012-2022 for alcohol-related harm.

Number of people by age group admitted to Waitematā DHB hospitals for alcohol-related harm 2012-2022											
Age Group	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 YTD
0-14 Yrs	≤5			≤5					≤5	≤5	
15-19 Yrs	6	13	15	≤5	9	≤5	11	≤5	9	≤5	
20-24 Yrs	15	16	14	24	9	21	14	25	22	10	≤5

25-29 Yrs	11	17	20	10	8	22	25	25	26	19	≤5
30-34 Yrs	18	16	19	10	25	27	33	20	33	32	10
35-39 Yrs	28	12	28	19	23	30	49	44	57	70	15
40-44 Yrs	40	44	42	29	51	41	51	60	58	69	21
45-49 Yrs	38	32	41	44	52	48	57	63	86	71	16
50-54 Yrs	58	71	52	53	56	56	58	76	65	79	38
55-59 Yrs	57	73	56	78	86	85	104	87	88	95	20
60-64 Yrs	36	39	44	65	67	57	60	48	80	97	28
65+ Yrs	137	123	158	191	156	190	206	240	269	290	73

6. Please provide a yearly breakdown of ethnicity of those admitted to your DHB from 2012-2022 for alcohol-related harm.

Number of people by ethnicity admitted to Waitematā DHB hospitals for alcohol-related harm 2012-2022											
Ethnicity	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 YTD
Asian	17	19	17	24	31	16	45	48	60	74	20
European	372	370	407	419	424	478	512	549	630	661	181
Maori	47	52	45	60	69	56	80	67	81	74	15
Other	≤5	≤5	≤5	≤5	6	7	10	≤5	≤5	12	≤5
Pacific Peoples	11	12	17	19	12	25	21	22	20	16	9

7. Please provide a yearly breakdown of the cost for each person treated/admitted in your DHB for alcohol-related causes.

The increasing costs of treating people for alcohol-related harm appear to be as a result of significant increase in clinical complexity – that is, some patients who are presenting are more unwell, with more complications and comorbidities and, therefore, need a higher level of care.

In addition, cost data is available from 2013 only due to the implementation of a new data warehouse at that time.

Annual cost for treated / admitted people at Waitematā DHB hospitals for alcohol-related harm 2012-2022	
Financial year	Actual Cost
2012	NA
2013	\$2,517,283
2014	\$7,639,460
2015	\$7,130,349
2016	\$7,267,975
2017	\$7,139,673
2018	\$7,476,639
2019	\$9,157,195
2020	\$11,465,367
2021	\$15,339,469
2022 YTD	\$3,751,711

8. Please provide a breakdown of how many patients were admitted to Emergency Departments where alcohol was determined to be a factor in their admission from 2012-2022.

Please note that we have interpreted this question as those patients who present to an ED and the term “alcohol” or “ETOH” (ethyl alcohol) was used in the presenting complaint and the patient was subsequently either discharged from hospital or admitted to hospital for further treatment.

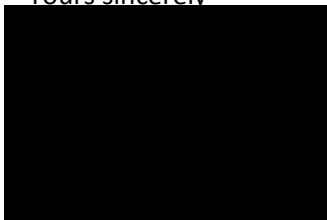
Number of people admitted to Waitematā DHB hospitals Emergency Department 2012-2022										
2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 YTD
1,363	1,266	1,425	1,387	1,599	1,550	1,589	1,601	1,488	1,463	486

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



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