



**Waitematā**

District Health Board

Best Care for Everyone

**Provider Healthcare Services**

North Shore Hospital Campus

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Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: OIA request – Smoking statistics**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received 24 August 2020 seeking information from Waitematā District Health Board (DHB) about smoking statistics.

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.

All Waitematā DHB sites are smokefree and smoking is not permitted by patients, visitors or staff in any of our buildings.

Patients who smoke are advised of our smokefree policy on admission and offered appropriate alternatives to smoking during their hospitalisation. Clinical staff also make patients aware of any contraindications to their treatment if they leave the ward/facility to smoke.

In 2009, the “Better help for smokers to quit” target was introduced. Unlike other health targets, this measure started without a reference point as advice and support to stop smoking was not routinely offered or recorded and this is reflected in the figures reported in 2009/10.

Since then, Waitematā DHB has implemented processes to improve accountability and documentation surrounding identifying the smoking status of patients and providing stop-smoking advice. This has allowed our hospitals to prioritise and improve systems and to develop relevant resources for patients and staff.

The figures below reflect our increasing population as well as increasing numbers of inpatient admissions. The increase in the number of patients receiving help and advice has resulted in a steady decrease in the overall smoking rate reported for hospitalised smokers from 17% in 2011 to 11% in 2019.

The Māori hospitalised smokers’ rate has improved significantly from 41% reported in 2011 to 30% reported in 2019.

Improving Māori outcomes with a focus to address health inequities between Māori and non-Māori remains a priority which requires our Smokefree service to continue to align practice with te reo me ōna tikanga Māori.

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

In relation to Waitematā DHB, please supply the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 for each of the years 2009 – 2020 being quarters one and two.

**1. Smoking status (inpatient) - Total number of smokers by ethnicity in the DHB mental health and addictions ward/s (including forensics)**

The information below includes the following inpatient facilities:

Service	Inpatient unit
Adult Acute Mental Health Services West	Waiatarau
Adult Acute Mental Health Services North	He Puna Waiora
Regional Forensic Psychiatry Services	Mason Clinic
Mental Health Services for Older Adults	Kingsley Mortimer Unit
Community Alcohol and Drug Services	Pitman House

Calendar Year	Asian	European	Māori	Pacific People	Other
2009	9	32	32	15	6
2010	18	26	40	17	10
2011	15	28	35	22	11
2012	16	35	37	20	14
2013	14	26	33	21	13
2014	12	28	33	20	12
2015	18	31	33	25	9
2016	14	29	36	20	15
2017	20	29	31	20	15
2018	14	27	28	21	12
2019	16	25	29	23	10
2020 to June 30	8	13	14	7	5

**2. Admissions (inpatient) - Total number of admissions by ethnicity to the DHB mental health and addictions ward/s (including forensics)**

The information below includes inpatient facilities as listed in response to question one.

Calendar Year	Asian	European	Māori	Pacific People	Other
2009	75	926	315	62	36
2010	87	976	361	87	33
2011	96	1,025	366	103	35
2012	103	1,104	354	93	44
2013	99	1,115	408	129	38
2014	108	1,153	428	99	47
2015	124	1,224	366	104	44
2016	118	1,151	422	95	60
2017	153	1,180	341	118	60
2018	134	1,187	365	101	60
2019	152	1,101	414	119	50
2020 to June 30	76	503	162	54	14

**3. Smoking status (inpatient) - Total number of inpatient smokers by ethnicity in the DHB general hospital/s wards including elderly**

The information below includes the following general hospital wards:

- North Shore Hospital

- 12 medical wards
- 7 surgical wards
- 3 Child Women and Family wards.
- Waitakere Hospital
  - 7 medical wards
  - 5 Child Women and Family wards.

Calendar Year	Asian	European	Māori	Pacific People	Other
2009	353	5,534	1,847	618	235
2010	465	7,217	2,622	904	279
2011	623	8,704	3,211	1,128	328
2012	567	8,239	3,060	999	263
2013	584	7,883	2,951	1,073	291
2014	648	8,155	2,941	1,082	287
2015	560	7,411	3,007	1,046	266
2016	718	7,922	3,116	1,061	263
2017	720	7,465	3,144	1,158	302
2018	745	6,842	3,063	1,084	296
2019	654	6,421	3,001	1,148	257
2020 to June 30	346	2,885	1,453	569	100

**4. Admissions (inpatient) - Total number of admissions by ethnicity to the DHB general hospital/s wards including elderly**

Please note the data below includes the hospitals and wards listed in response to question three.

Calendar Year	Asian	European	Māori	Pacific People	Other
2009	6,362	54,108	6,965	4,947	2,288
2010	6,493	52,106	6,884	4,886	2,091
2011	8,148	61,962	8,006	5,583	2,351
2012	8,840	62,476	7,806	5,491	2,284
2013	9,330	65,691	8,052	5,729	2,455
2014	11,665	69,794	8,446	6,407	2,610
2015	11,678	68,367	9,106	6,464	2,726
2016	13,215	71,525	9,503	6,963	2,796
2017	14,143	73,939	9,939	7,257	3,076
2018	14,293	72,234	10,183	7,552	2,924
2019	15,184	71,344	10,156	7,681	2,765
2020 to June 30	7,316	33,694	4,986	3,752	1,233

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



**Mark Shepherd**  
**Director Provider Healthcare Services**  
**Waitematā District Health Board**