

"We did it together as a team, let's continue to improve"



The Minister of Health and therefore the health sector focuses on two things: financial performance and the six health targets. Waikato DHB mostly sits in mid to lower place in health targets for quarter two (three months ended 31 December 2009). However, our emergency departments are the most improved in New Zealand this quarter.

We can do better and together as a team we will do whatever we need to do to lift our performance even higher across all health targets. Below is the latest table, my comments on each target (in shaded blue) and those of the Ministry's health target champions.

- Craig Climo, Chief Executive, Waikato DHB - 26 February 2010

Quarter 2 results



**Shorter stays in
Emergency Departments**

Ranking	District Health Board	Q2 Performance	Change from previous quarter
1	West Coast	99%	▲
2	Nelson Marlborough	98%	▲
3	Wairarapa	97%	▲
4	South Canterbury	96%	▲
5	Whanganui	96%	▲
6	Tairāwhiti	96%	▲
7	Counties Manukau	94%	▲
8	Taranaki	94%	▲
9	Canterbury	90%	▲
10	Bay of Plenty	86%	▲
11	Lakes	86%	▲
12	Hutt Valley	85%	▲
13	Southland	82%	▲
14	Northland	82%	▲
15	Waikato	79%	▲
16	MidCentral	78%	▲
17	Hawke's Bay	78%	▲
18	Auckland	76%	▲
19	Otago	73%	▲
20	Capital & Coast	69%	▲
21	Waitemata	68%	▲

Shorter stays in Emergency Departments

The target is 95 percent of patients will be admitted, discharged, or transferred from an Emergency Department (ED) within six hours. The target is a measure of the efficiency of flow of acute (urgent) patients through public hospitals, and home again. To achieve this target with good, sustainable improvements is expected to take up to two years for many hospitals.

The best improvement among all 21 DHBs came from Waikato DHB, which improved by 12 per cent to 79 per cent. I'm very grateful for the effort that is going into this. It suggests that whole of hospital improvements are being made which is just what we're looking for.



Mike Ardagh - Shorter stays in Emergency Departments champion:

Waikato DHB's performance against the shorter stays in Emergency Departments (ED) health target improved significantly to 79 per cent in quarter two, from 67 per cent in quarter one. Although Waikato DHB is still some distance away from achieving the 95 per cent target, this improvement is encouraging and shows that the DHB is focusing effort in this target area. Continued implementation of Waikato DHB's delivery plan for shorter stays in ED, led by the champions with strong support from across the DHB, should result in continued and sustained improvements in performance and achievement of the target by the end of 2010/11.

**Improved access to
Elective Surgery**

Ranking	District Health Board	Q2 Performance	Change from previous quarter
1	Southland	114%	▲
2	Auckland	111%	▲
3	Nelson Marlborough	110%	▲
4	Waitemata	110%	▲
5	Canterbury	108%	▲
6	Northland	108%	▲
7	Waikato	107%	▲
8	Counties Manukau	106%	▲
9	West Coast	100%	▲
10	Lakes	99%	▲
11	South Canterbury	98%	▲
12	Bay of Plenty	97%	▲
13	Otago	97%	▲
14	Whanganui	96%	▲
15	Capital & Coast	95%	▲
16	MidCentral	95%	▲
17	Wairarapa	95%	▲
18	Hutt Valley	95%	▲
19	Taranaki	95%	▲
20	Tairāwhiti*	92%	▲
21	Hawke's Bay	85%	▲

Improved access to elective surgery

The target is an increase in the volume of elective surgery by an average of 4,000 discharges per year.

* Tairāwhiti DHB's delivery is under-reported due to the implementation of a new Patient Management System

We are well ahead of plan and in this context the ranking loses meaningfulness. That we've increased capacity is due to the great work of not only our surgical people but again suggests that whole of hospital improvements are being felt.

Waikato DHB was one of eight DHBs, which delivered over five percent more discharges than their target.



Clare Perry: Improved access to elective surgery champion:

Waikato DHB achieved an outstanding level of delivery for this health target in the year to date. The Ministry looks forward to Waikato continuing this performance and achieving its target number of elective surgical discharges at year end.

**Shorter waits for
Cancer Treatment Radiotherapy**

Ranking	District Health Board	Q2 Performance	Change from previous quarter
1	Capital & Coast	100%	▲
1	Bay of Plenty	100%	▲
1	Tairāwhiti	100%	▲
1	Hawke's Bay	100%	▲
1	Taranaki	100%	▲
1	MidCentral	100%	▲
1	Whanganui	100%	▲
1	Hutt Valley	100%	▲
1	Wairarapa	100%	▲
1	South Canterbury	100%	▲
1	Otago	100%	▲
1	Southland	100%	▲
13	Waikato	99%	▲
14	Northland	98%	▲
15	Canterbury	98%	▲
16	Lakes	98%	▲
17	Auckland	96%	▲
18	Hutt Valley	95%	▲
19	Nelson Marlborough	92%	▲
20	Counties Manukau	92%	▲
21	Waitemata	89%	▲

Shorter waits for cancer treatment radiotherapy

The target is everyone needing radiation treatment will have this within six weeks of their first specialist assessment by the end of July 2010 and within four weeks by December 2010. Six regional oncology centres provide radiation oncology services. These centres are in Auckland, Hamilton, Palmerston North, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.

We've got the best radiotherapy service in NZ and I'm disappointed the ranking doesn't convey it. Waikato Regional Cancer Centre had three patients wait for capacity reasons in October, but regularly accepts referrals from other centres where there are capacity issues, including Auckland patients.



John Childs: Shorter waits for cancer treatment champion:

I congratulate the DHB for a good performance against the target (99 per cent) noting that the centre continues to accept patients for treatment from other centres. To ensure consistency of performance, the target reporting changed to include data from the full three-month period rather than the final one-month of the reporting period. This resulted in no substantial change to the reported results to date.

**Increased
Immunisation**

Ranking	District Health Board	Q2 Performance	Change from previous quarter
1	Hawke's Bay	91%	▲
2	Southland	90%	▲
3	Otago	89%	▲
4	Capital & Coast	89%	▲
5	South Canterbury	89%	▲
6	Hutt Valley	87%	▲
7	Wairarapa	87%	▲
8	Taranaki	86%	▲
9	Canterbury	86%	▲
10	Nelson Marlborough	85%	▲
11	Waitemata	83%	▲
12	MidCentral	82%	▲
13	Auckland	82%	▲
14	Whanganui	81%	▲
15	Counties Manukau	80%	▲
16	Waikato	80%	▲
17	Tairāwhiti	77%	▲
18	West Coast	76%	▲
19	Bay of Plenty	76%	▲
20	Northland	74%	▲
21	Lakes	73%	▲

Increased immunisation

The national immunisation target is for 85 percent of two-year olds* to be fully immunised by July 2010; 90 percent by July 2011; and 95 percent by July 2012.

* This quarterly progress result includes children who turned two years between October and December 2009 and who were fully immunised at that stage.

The results are mainly driven outside the hospitals (although the hospitals have the opportunistic immunisation) and a lot of time and money is going into immunising the hard to reach groups. This is just one of two indicators that we showed progress on in quarter two.



Pat Tuohy: Increased immunisation champion:

The DHB has encouraging results and much innovative activity in the DHB. This is beginning to pay dividends with significant quarterly increases. The DHB will need to provide a leadership role for a regional approach with Lakes, Tairāwhiti and Bay of Plenty all struggling to get to 80 percent coverage.

**Better help for
Smokers to Quit**

Ranking	District Health Board	Q2 Performance	Change from previous quarter
1	Wairarapa	80%	▲
2	West Coast	71%	▲
3	Nelson Marlborough	43%	▲
4	Waikato	40%	▲
5	Southland	38%	▲
6	Hawke's Bay	32%	▲
7	Tairāwhiti	31%	▲
8	Whanganui	31%	▲
9	Northland	29%	▲
10	Canterbury	28%	▲
11	MidCentral	24%	▲
12	Capital & Coast	22%	▲
13	Hutt Valley	21%	▲
14	Lakes	21%	▲
15	Auckland	20%	▲
16	Waitemata	19%	▲
17	Otago	19%	▲
18	Bay of Plenty	18%	▲
19	South Canterbury	17%	▲
20	Taranaki	15%	▲
21	Counties Manukau	11%	▲

Better help for smokers to quit

The target is that 80 percent of hospitalised smokers will be provided with advice and help to quit by July 2010; 90 percent by July 2011; and 95 percent by July 2012. The data covers patients presenting to Emergency Departments, day stay and other hospital based interventions.

We're ranked high but it's cold comfort given our actual performance. It is well short of the target and this is the one indicator that most widely involves staff. I ask all health professionals to be active in recording smoking status and offering intervention. The process is simple and does not take long to implement the treatment options. Choosing not to smoke is the single biggest lifestyle choice our patients can make. Waikato DHB achieved a higher prevalence rate so is identifying more smokers.



Ashley Bloomfield: Better help for smokers to quit champion:

The DHB was a high performer in this target in quarter one, however there has only been a slight increase in the proportion of smokers offered advice and help to quit in quarter two. Given that we are already into quarter three, there needs to be a concerted effort now to make the required improvement in performance in quarters three and four. As with all health targets, the Minister has made clear that the tobacco target is non-negotiable.

**Better
Diabetes and Cardiovascular Services**

Ranking	District Health Board	Q2 Performance	Change from previous quarter
1	Wairarapa	76%	▲
2	Taranaki	76%	▲
3	MidCentral	75%	▲
4	Counties Manukau	74%	▲
5	Hutt Valley	72%	▲
6	Hawke's Bay	70%	▲
7	West Coast	70%	▲
8	Southland	69%	▲
9	Capital & Coast	69%	▲
10	Tairāwhiti	68%	▲
11	Waitemata	68%	▲
12	Otago	67%	▲
13	Lakes	67%	▲
14	Whanganui	66%	▲
15	Waikato	66%	▲
16	Northland	66%	▲
17	South Canterbury	65%	▲
18	Nelson Marlborough	64%	▲
19	Auckland	64%	▲
20	Bay of Plenty	64%	▲
21	Canterbury	63%	▲

Better diabetes and cardiovascular services

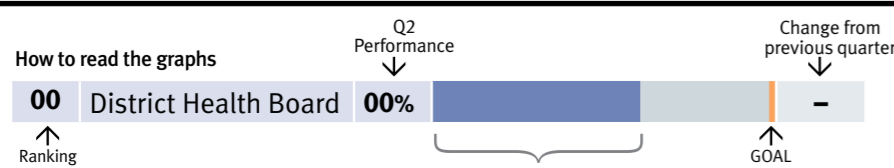
This graph represents the average progress made by a DHB towards three target indicators: (a) an increased percent of the eligible adult population will have had their cardiovascular disease risk assessed in the last five years; (b) an increased percent of people with diabetes will attend free annual checks; (c) an increased percent of people with diabetes will have satisfactory or better diabetes management.

This indicator is more complex than the others and the least meaningful to the public and us alike. The Q2 performance doesn't reveal that a lot more patients have been identified in the target group and as they are treated and their conditions brought under control that our performance should improve significantly.



Sandy Dawson: Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) Services champion:

This DHB has the full range of services to excel in the diabetes/CVD national health target. At present, performance on this target is satisfactory, but trended down from quarter one to quarter two.



This information should be read in conjunction with the details on the website www.moh.govt.nz/healthtargets



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