Health Targets show continuing improvement

Quarter two results October-December 2010

Waikato District Health Board

THE GOVERNMENT'S extra $1.2 billion investment in Health over the past two years is delivering gains in key areas such as faster cancer treatment, more elective surgery, immunisation, and shorter stays in emergency departments. Releasing the latest health targets performance data for the period October – December 2010, Health Minister Tony Ryall said, "Staff in New Zealand's public health service are delivering a good return on the government's record investment in health. "In the cancer radiation treatment waiting time target, all 20 District Health Boards (DHBs) achieved the target of patients starting treatment within six weeks of their first specialist assessment. We've tightened the target to four weeks this year. "Waiting times in emergency departments (EDs) have improved 10 percent since the introduction of these targets, up to 88 percent of patients either admitted to hospital, treated and discharged, or transferred from the ED within six hours. The target is 95 per cent. "Big gains are continuing in immunisation, with just over 88 per cent of two year olds now fully immunised, and the new target is to achieve 90 per cent by July this year. "We have seen a steady increase in the number of smokers who are given advice and help to quit smoking when they are in hospital, and diabetes and cardiovascular services are reaching more people more frequently. Mr Ryall said, "The government is determined to protect and grow the public health service. We are seeing more high priority frontline services being delivered within the extra funding."

Tony Ryall, Minister of Health

Shorter stays in Emergency Departments

		Quarter two performance	Change from previous quarter
1	West Coast	100%	–
2	Nelson Marlborough	98%	–
3	Counties Manukau	97%	–
4	Tairawhiti	96%	–
5	South Canterbury	96%	–
6	Wairarapa	96%	–
7	Canterbury	94%	▲
8	Taranaki	94%	▲
9	Bay of Plenty	93%	▲
10	Hawke's Bay	91%	–
11	Lakes	89%	▲
12	Whanganui	89%	▼
13	Hutt Valley	88%	▲
14	MidCentral	87%	▲
15	Waikato	85%	▲
16	Northland	84%	▼
17	Waitemata	82%	▲
18	Southern	80%	▲
19	Auckland	78%	▲
20	Capital & Coast	76%	▲
	All DHBs	88%	▲

95%

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.

Professor Mike Ardagh, National Clinical Director of Emergency Department Services

National performance against the shorter stays emergency department target increased to 88.2 percent in quarter two 2010/11, compared to 85.6 percent in quarter one 2010/11 and 80.3 percent in quarter one 2009/10.

Improved access to Elective Surgery

		Quarter two performance	Progress against plan (discharges)
1	Whanganui	115%	▲
2	Southern	110%	▲
3	Northland	109%	▲
4	Lakes	109%	▲
5	Wairarapa	106%	▲
6	South Canterbury	104%	▲
7	Nelson Marlborough	103%	▲
8	Taranaki	103%	▲
9	MidCentral	103%	▲
10	Canterbury	102%	▲
11	Bay of Plenty	102%	▲
12	Capital & Coast	101%	▲
13	Waikato	99%	▼
14	Hutt Valley	99%	▼
15	Counties Manukau	97%	▼
16	Waitemata	97%	▼
17	Tairawhiti	97%	▼
18	Hawke's Bay	96%	▼
19	Auckland	89%	▼
20	West Coast	88%	▼
	All DHBs	101%	▲

100%

Improved access to elective surgery

The target is an increase in the volume of elective surgery by an average of 4000 discharges per year.

** DHBs planned to deliver 70,620 discharges year to date, and have delivered 536 discharges more.*

Clare Perry, Acting Manager, Elective Services

The improved access to elective surgery target shows the national target has been achieved, with 71,156 elective surgical discharges provided in the 2010/11 year to date, against a target of 70,620 discharges. This is 536 (1 percent) more than planned and an improvement over the quarter two results for 2009/10 by 2459 discharges.

Shorter waits for Cancer Treatment

		Quarter two performance	Change from previous quarter
1	Northland	100%	–
1	Waitemata	100%	–
1	Auckland	100%	–
1	Counties Manukau	100%	–
1	Waikato	100%	–
1	Lakes	100%	–
1	Bay of Plenty	100%	–
1	Tairawhiti	100%	–
1	Hawke's Bay	100%	–
1	Taranaki	100%	–
1	MidCentral	100%	–
1	Whanganui	100%	–
1	Capital & Coast	100%	–
1	Hutt Valley	100%	–
1	Wairarapa	100%	–
1	Nelson Marlborough	100%	–
1	West Coast	100%	▲
1	Canterbury	100%	▲
1	South Canterbury	100%	–
1	Southern	100%	–
	All DHBs	100%	–

100%

Shorter waits for cancer treatment

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 January 2011. Six regional oncology centres provide radiation oncology services. These centres are in Auckland, Hamilton, Palmerston North, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.

Dr John Childs, National Clinical Director, Cancer Programme

Nationally, the six-week shorter waits for cancer treatment health target was achieved for 100 percent of patients in quarter two. This compares to 99.5 percent in quarter one 2010/11.

Increased Immunisation

		Quarter two performance	Change from previous quarter
1	Hawke's Bay	95%	–
2	West Coast	93%	▲
3	Southern	92%	–
4	Canterbury	92%	–
5	Hutt Valley	92%	–
6	Whanganui	92%	▲
7	Wairarapa	92%	▲
8	Taranaki	91%	▲
9	MidCentral	91%	▲
10	South Canterbury	91%	▼
11	Capital & Coast	90%	–
12	Nelson Marlborough	90%	▲
13	Waitemata	89%	–
14	Lakes	88%	–
15	Waikato	88%	▲
16	Auckland	87%	–
17	Counties Manukau	87%	–
18	Tairawhiti	82%	▼
19	Northland	78%	–
20	Bay of Plenty	76%	▲
	All DHBs	88%	–

90%

Increased Immunisation

The national immunisation target is for 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 2010 and who were fully immunised at that stage.*

Dr Pat Tuohy, Chief Advisor, Child and Youth Health

The total New Zealand immunisation coverage rate for children turning 24 months was 88.3 percent. This is an improvement of 0.7 percent for the increased immunisation target compared with quarter one in 2010/11.

Better help for Smokers to Quit

		Quarter two performance	Change from previous quarter
1	South Canterbury	97%	▲
2	Hutt Valley	88%	▲
3	Hawke's Bay	83%	▲
4	Canterbury	77%	▲
5	Lakes	74%	▲
6	West Coast	72%	▲
7	Waitemata	72%	▲
8	Wairarapa	71%	▼
9	Northland	71%	–
10	Waikato	70%	–
11	Southern	70%	▲
12	Whanganui	69%	▲
13	Counties Manukau	67%	–
14	MidCentral	67%	▲
15	Bay of Plenty	65%	▲
16	Auckland	65%	–
17	Capital & Coast	62%	▲
18	Taranaki	60%	▼
19	Tairawhiti	55%	▼
20	Nelson Marlborough	46%	▲
	All DHBs	70%	▲

90%

Better help for smokers to quit

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

Dr Ashley Bloomfield, National Director, Tobacco Control

The national average of the better help for smokers to quit target has increased from 67 percent in quarter one to 70 percent of smokers receiving help and advice to quit nationally. Some DHBs have shown slight or no progress this quarter, and are at risk of failing to achieve the target if they continue to progress at the same rate.

Better Diabetes and Cardiovascular Services

		Quarter two performance	Change from previous quarter
1	Taranaki	87%	▼
2	MidCentral	80%	–
3	Whanganui	79%	▲
4	Lakes	77%	▲
5	Waikato	76%	▼
6	Hutt Valley	75%	–
7	West Coast	74%	▼
8	Hawke's Bay	74%	–
9	Bay of Plenty	74%	–
10	Waitemata	74%	–
11	Southern	73%	▲
12	Wairarapa	73%	–
13	Counties Manukau	73%	▲
14	Northland	73%	–
15	Capital & Coast	71%	–
16	Auckland	70%	–
17	South Canterbury	70%	▲
18	Nelson Marlborough	69%	–
19	Tairawhiti	68%	▼
20	Canterbury	67%	▼
	All DHBs	73%	–

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.

** Quarter two results are based on updated diabetes prevalence figures. For the purposes of comparison between quarters one and two, the published quarter one results have been recalculated using the updated diabetes prevalence figures.*

Dr Brandon Orr-Walker, National Clinical Director, Diabetes

National composite performance in the better diabetes and cardiovascular services health target is relatively unchanged between quarters one and two of 2010/11 with 72.7 percent in quarter two compared with 72.8 percent in quarter one. Quarter two results have been calculated using updated diabetes prevalence figures for 2010/11. For the purposes of comparison between quarters one and two, the quarter one results have been recalculated using the updated diabetes prevalence figures and therefore differ from those previously published for quarter one.

CVD risk assessment

DHBs continue to achieve progress in this indicator with the national percentage of the eligible population who have had their CVD risk assessed in the last five years up to 76.5 percent, from 76.0 percent last quarter.

Diabetes free annual checks

Using the revised prevalence figures and based on the number of diabetes free annual checks delivered during the first two quarters of 2010/11, nationally it is expected that 68.8 percent of people with diabetes will attend their free annual check during 2010/11. Based on the recalculated result for quarter one of 70.4 percent this is a decrease in performance.

Diabetes management

Nationally, of those who have received their diabetes free annual check so far during 2010/11, 72.8 percent had satisfactory or better diabetes management. This is an increase on the performance in quarter one 2010/11 of 72.1 percent.

Jan Adams, Health Waikato Chief Operating Officer, Waikato DHB

Shorter stays in emergency departments

This target is a whole of hospital one not just an emergency department target and improvements are needed across all services over the next quarter. We've put trauma specialist Dr Grant Christey to assist us in an all of hospital response. ED is continuing to make steady progress towards reaching this target with a three percent improvement this quarter.

Improved access to elective surgery

Elective surgery missed the target by 40 cases. The paradox is that the failure to meet the target is in the context of more elective surgery being performed by Waikato DHB compared to prior years. Health Waikato is fully committed to achieve these targets without overproducing elective surgery.

Shorter waits for cancer treatment

This is the last quarter as six weeks but we have consistently met the four week target since mid 2010

Brett Paradine, General Manager of Planning and Funding, Waikato DHB

Increased immunisation

Waikato DHB has made a huge improvement in performance in the immunisation health target compared to the same time last year and improved by two per cent since last quarter. It has to be said that this increase is due to a fantastic collaborative effort across a range of primary and secondary services.

Better diabetes and cardiovascular services

While there has been a slight increase this quarter which puts Waikato DHB at 76 per cent for this target, the expected overall outcome is 73 per cent, which will keep us in the top two-thirds of the league table.

The drop in the league table does not represent a reduction in services being delivered, however a very high one-off volume of service reported in April 2010 is continuing to have a downward impact on Waikato DHB's results for the 2010/11 year.

Sue Hayward, Director of Nursing and Midwifery, Waikato DHB

Better help for smokers to quit

Waikato DHB has slowly but surely improved on this target and while more is required to achieve a level that will significantly improve the long term health of our population, most staff have made an absolute commitment to be influential in supporting this aim. Areas have smoke free champions who provide education to both patients and staff so nicotine replacement therapy is available with ongoing support to patients who want it. All wards and doctors are provided with actual levels of compliance attached to either them individually or the area they work in, this in turn does show where extra work is needed for staff to understand the importance of reducing dependence on nicotine plus highlight those individuals and areas who are truly improving the long term health of Waikato residents.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
MANATŪ HAUORA

www.waikatodhb.health.nz/healthtargets