What are the overall quarter one health target results?

Nationally, the quarter one 2011/12 health target results show good performance improvement in most areas. Two of the national targets were achieved: Shorter waits for cancer treatment and Improved access to elective surgery. The Better help for smokers to quit and Increased immunisation health targets showed positive performance improvement. The remaining two health targets showed slight deterioration: Shorter stays in emergency departments (although improved on previous winter quarter) and Better diabetes and cardiovascular services.

How did each health target perform?

Shorter Stays in Emergency Departments

National performance against the Shorter stays in ED health target deteriorated slightly to 90 percent this quarter primarily due to pressure on services over the winter months. This result compares with 86 percent during the same winter quarter last year and 91 percent for quarter four 2010/11.

Improved Access to Elective Surgery

The Improved access to elective surgery health target results show the national target has been achieved with 38,555 elective surgical discharges provided, against a target of 37,280 discharges. This is 1275 (3 percent) more than planned.

Shorter Waits for Cancer Treatment Radiotherapy

Nationally, 100 percent of patients, who were ready for treatment, received their radiation treatment within four weeks of their first specialist radiation oncology assessment in the Shorter waits for cancer treatment health target.

Increased Immunisation

National immunisation coverage in the Increased immunisation health target increased from 90.4 percent in quarter four 2010/11 to 90.8 in quarter one 2011/12, against a target of 95 percent for the total population.

Better Help for Smokers to Quit

In the Better help for smokers to quit target the national average increased from 85 percent in quarter four 2010/11 to 88 percent in quarter one 2011/12. Over 34,600 hospitalised smokers have been identified in quarter one and 30,429 have received brief help and advice to quit.

Better Diabetes and Cardiovascular Services

The composite national result for the Better diabetes and cardiovascular services health target reduced slightly this quarter to 70 percent, compared with 72 percent in quarter four 2010/11.

What are the changes in the health targets for 2011/12?

Some adjustments have been made to the target set for 2011/12, and these changes are reflected in the quarter one results.

- The Increased immunisation target has shifted from 90 to 95 percent.
- The Better help for smokers to quit target has also shifted from 90 to 95 percent, and the primary care component of the target has been formalised within the target (with a goal of 90 percent).
- A national goal of 90 percent has been introduced for the cardiovascular component of the Better diabetes and cardiovascular services health target.

Where can I find out more information on how my DHB is performing?

More specific information on each of the health targets can be found on the Ministry of Health's website at
http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexmh/healthtargets-reporting