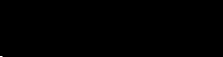


18 April 2019



Dear 

**Official information request W19-325**

I refer to your official information request dated 21 March 2019.

**Request:**

1. What is the number of hospital admissions for opioid use, abuse or overdose, annually, since 2015 in your region?
2. Could you please provide me, if possible, with the age, ethnicity and sex for each of these patients?
3. Does the DHB provide any help for those addicted to opioids, such as recovery programmes? If so, could you please provide details of these programmes, as well as the current number of people enrolled in your region?
4. Does the DHB keep records of opiate prescription rates, i.e. how many times opiates are being prescribed on an annual basis in your region?
5. If so, can you please provide me with the number of times opiates are prescribed on an annual basis since 2015? Could you please include which opiates are being prescribed?

**Response:**

The information you have requested is below.

1 & 2

Ethnicity	Sex	Age Group	CY			
			2015	2016	2017	2018
European	F	0 - 24	1			
		25 - 44	1	1	1	1
		45 - 64		1		
		65- 84				3
		85+				1
European Total	M	0 - 24	1		2	1
		25 - 44		2		
		45 - 64				1
<b>European Total</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>
Maori	F	0 - 24		1	1	
		45 - 64		1		1
Maori Total	M	0 - 24	1	1		
			<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Pacific Is.	F	0 - 24			1	
<b>Pacific Is. Total</b>					<b>1</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>

- 3 Wairarapa DHB contracts Mental Health Solutions (Pathways Health Limited) for a range of Mental Health and Addiction services in the community, all of which are described in detail in the Ministry's National Service Framework (NSF). Link here: <https://nsfl.health.govt.nz/service-specifications/current-service-specifications/mental-health-and-addiction-services>

This service is underpinned by recovery principles. All contacts provided by the service are reported through the national PRIMHD data system and the contract is funded on calculated FTE hours.

Pathways provides a variety of addiction and recovery services in the wider Wairarapa region, including:

- Comprehensive assessment and treatment planning
- Referral to other services
- Harm minimisation and education around risk
- Drug and alcohol health screening
- Withdrawal support and detoxification management
- Psychosocial support
- Individual and family counselling
- Group programs
- Youth AOD counselling

As part of the overall Addictions service managed by Pathways, the Opioid Substitution Treatment (OST) programme provides a combination of specialist medications alongside psychosocial supports. The team of both counselling and medical staff (overseen by a Clinical Director) provide individual case management and recovery programmes to service users. This includes assessment and goal planning. The overall aim of the OST programme is to support clients to reduce overall risks, improve health and wellness and prevent relapse either during or post treatment.

While the caseload fluctuates depending on the needs of the local population, as at 15 January 2019, 100 people were enrolled in the Wairarapa OST programme.

- 4 We do not keep records of opiate prescription rates.
- 5 As above.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Wairarapa District Health Board website no less than one week after the response has been provided to you. Any personal or identifying information will be redacted from any response published online. The DHB will endeavour to resolve any concerns you should raise but, subject to any legal grounds for withholding, ultimately reserves the right to publish any information.

If you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact:

Caroline van Deventer, Communications Administrator

Email: [caroline.vanDeventer@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz](mailto:caroline.vanDeventer@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz), Ph: 06 946 9800, ext 5840

Yours sincerely



Anna Cardno

**Communications Manager**