

11 April 2019

Email: [REDACTED]

Re: Official Information Act

Dear [REDACTED]

I am responding on behalf of Hauora Tairāwhiti (Tairāwhiti DHB) to your OIA Request of 27 March regarding Opioids.

Our response to your request:

What is the number of hospital admissions for opioid and opiate use, abuse or overdose, annually, since 2015?

Hauora Tairāwhiti does not hold this information without a manual search through records which is impractical to complete.

Could you please provide me, if possible, with the age, sex and ethnicity for each of these patients?

Hauora Tairāwhiti does not hold this information without a manual search through records which is impractical to complete.

Does the DHB provide any help for those addicted to opioids or opiates, such as recovery programmes? If so, can you please provide details of these programmes, as well as the current number of people enrolled in your region?

We have 37 people on our OST Programme currently, 2 new this year.

The current OST programme consists of counselling sessions if required, monthly scripting by the doctor, 3 monthly review with whaiora, AOD Nurse and doctor.

The team meet weekly with the doctor to discuss concerns and issues, our whanau and consumer leads are involved with these meetings.

Does the DHB keep records of opiate and opioid prescription rates i.e. how many times these are being prescribed on an annual basis in your region? If so, can you

please provide me with the number of times opiates and opioids are prescribed on an annual basis, since 2015?

Hauora Tairāwhiti does not dispense opioids at all. We don't do outpatient controlled drug prescriptions, these are all done in the community. The hospital pharmacy provides controlled drug requisition orders, the opioids are kept in the safe on the ward and administered by staff. However, we are able to provide numbers for community pharmacies.

From Community Pharms Warehouse	2015	2016	2017	2018
Opioid Scripts	15,941	16,470	17,109	16,748

Could you please include which opiates and opioids are being prescribed?

Hauora Tairāwhiti does not hold this information without a manual search through records which is impractical to complete

If you are not satisfied with this response you may contact the Office of the Ombudsmen, phone 0800 802 602.

Please note this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Hauora Tairāwhiti DHB website. Your personal/identifying information will be redacted from any responses published.

If you feel that there are good reasons why your response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Ngā mihi,

Briar Hunter
 Communications Advisor
 Hauora Tairāwhiti