

Clinical : Women's Health & Kidz First
Proactive Release : 18 April 2018



27 March 2019



E-mail: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act (1982) Request

I write in response to your Official Information Act request dated 7 March 2019. You requested the following information:

- 1. How many deaths of children under 10 years of age have there been at Middlemore Hospital since January 2019?**
- 2. What are the ethnicities of the children under the age of 10 years who have died at Middlemore Hospital since January 2019?**
- 3. How many deaths of children under 10 years of age at Middlemore Hospital have there been since January 2009?**
- 4. What are the ethnicities of the children under the age of 10 years who have died at Middlemore Hospital since January 2009?**

Our response for Counties Manukau is below, but firstly we believe additional information provides useful context. We note that CM Health delivers health services to the fast growing, and culturally diverse region of Counties Manukau, currently a population in excess of 557,000 people. There are over 121,000 children (13% of all NZ children) living in the region. Our maternity services support more than 7,500 women who give birth each year.

We have provided raw data information in response to your questions, but note this should be treated with caution, given the differences in population composition between regions of NZ. For example, 37% of all Pacific Islanders in NZ live in the Counties Manukau region.

More information on our women and new-born services, including provision/outcomes of specialist neonatal care, is available via the Annual Women and New-Born Report on the CM Health website:

- <https://countiesmanukau.health.nz/our-services/womens-health/maternity-services/womens-health-and-newborn-annual-report/>

We acknowledge the public interest in these matters, and have balanced this against the privacy considerations of the families involved. Consequently, we specifically note the very small numbers reported per year by ethnicity in the data that we are providing in this response, and recommend very

thoughtful use of it, given the sensitivity of the topic, even after many years for any family of a child who has died.

Please refer to the tables below for the response to your questions 1 – 4:

Clarification of the data:

- **For the period Jan 2009 – Feb 2019:**
- **Any cause of death (trauma, medical, accident) in Middlemore Hospital facility for:**
- **Neonate - age between 0 and 28 days**
- **Child - aged over 29 days and less than 10 years**

Total Deaths: by age category 2009 to 2019

Year	Neonates	Child	Total
2009	41	11	52
2010	39	7	46
2011	38	7	45
2012	41	4	45
2013	38	8	46
2014	28	10	38
2015	29	7	36
2016	43	5	48
2017	36	4	40
2018	28	3	31
2019 - Jan/ Feb	5	1	6
Total	366	67	433

Table 1

Deaths: by age category and ethnicity 2009 to 2019

Year	Ethnicity	Neonate	Child	Total
2009	Maaori	8	5	13
	Pacific	18	4	22
	European	8		8
	Asian	5		5
	Indian	2	2	4
2009 Total		41	11	52
2010	Maaori	6	3	9
	Pacific	22	3	25
	European	4		4
	Asian	2		2
	Indian	4	1	5
	Other	1		1
2010 Total		39	7	46

Year	Ethnicity	Neonate	Child	Total
2011	Maaori	9	4	13
	Pacific	15	1	16
	European	3		3
	Asian	5	1	6
	Indian	4		4
	Other	2	1	3
2011 Total		38	7	45
2012	Maaori	9	2	11
	Pacific	20	1	21
	European	3		3
	Asian	3		3
	Indian	6	1	7
2012 Total		41	4	45
2013	Maaori	9	2	11
	Pacific	13	3	16
	European	8	2	10
	Asian	2		2
	Indian	6		6
	Other		1	1
2013 Total		38	8	46
2014	Maaori	7	3	10
	Pacific	13	6	19
	European	1		1
	Asian	2	1	3
	Indian	5		5
2014 Total		28	10	38
2015	Maaori	6	1	7
	Pacific	10	3	13
	European	4	2	6
	Asian	1		1
	Indian	7	1	8
	Other	1		1
2015 Total		29	7	36
2016	Maaori	16	1	17
	Pacific	17	3	20
	European	4	1	5
	Asian	4		4
	Indian	2		2
2016 Total		43	5	48
2017	Maaori	12	1	13
	Pacific	13	2	15

Year	Ethnicity	Neonate	Child	Total
	European	1		1
	Asian	5		5
	Indian	4	1	5
	Other	1		1
2017 Total		36	4	40
2018	Maaori	5	2	7
	Pacific	12	1	13
	European	3		3
	Asian	3		3
	Indian	4		4
	Other	1		1
2018 Total		28	3	31
2019 (Jan/ Feb)	<i>Maaori</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
	<i>Pacific</i>	<i>3</i>		<i>3</i>
	<i>European</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>1</i>
2019 Total		5	1	6
Total		366	67	433

Table 2

I trust this information satisfactorily answers your query. If you are not satisfied with this response you are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau DHB website.

Yours sincerely,



Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive