

Clinical : Women's Health
Proactive release : 08 November 2018

02 November 2018

[REDACTED]

Dear Ms Howse,

Official Information Act (1982) Request

I write in response to your Official Information Act request, received 04 October 2018. You requested the following information:

1. The average length of stay for women and their babies in birthing facilities for each of the years 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19 to date.
2. The average length of inpatient post-natal stay for each woman birthing at your DHB, by hour, in 2017/18. Please provide separately for vaginal and non-vaginal births.

You subsequently clarified (via Waitemata DHB) on 09 October that for question two, you would accept a revised response, providing

3. *The length of inpatient post-natal stay for woman birthing at your DHB, grouped by the number of women staying less than six hours and the number staying longer than 48 hours, in 2017/18. Please provide separately for vaginal and non-vaginal births.*

1. The average length of stay for a women and her baby has in a birthing facility for each of the years 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19 to date.

Please refer to (Table 1) below, with data to August 2018 for Average Length of Stay (ALOS) for Births at all CMDHB facilities (Middlemore Hospital, Botany Maternity Hospital, Papakura Maternity Hospital and Pukekohe Maternity Hospital).

Fiscal year	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19 July --Aug 18 only
ALOS (days)	2.11	2.25	2.29	2.24
ALOS (hours)	50.6	54.0	54.9	53.8

Table 1

- **Date range:** Births during fiscal years 2015/16 to 2018/19
- **Data extracted:** 11/10/2018
- **Data source:** iPM & MCIS & CostPro

Please note this data may vary from the data supplied to you by the Ministry of Health from the National Minimum data Set (NMDS) coding, due to small differences in extraction methods.

The data provided includes:

- Home births and 'born before arrivals', if admitted to a facility within 2 hours of birth.
- Total length of stay from the date/time of the birth to discharge from last destination.
- Entire postnatal stay: for example a postnatal stay at Middlemore Hospital and then a Primary Birthing Unit.
- All birth outcomes.
- **Excludes** births occurring before 20 weeks gestation.

In most cases, a baby will have the same length of stay as the mother, unless the baby is admitted to Neonatal Care, and may stay longer than the Mother. These babies are not included in the above LOS figures.

2. (as revised) The length of inpatient post-natal stay for woman birthing at CMDHB, grouped by the number of women staying less than six hours and the number staying longer than 48 hours, in 2017/18, separated by vaginal and non-vaginal births.

In the Fiscal year 2017/18, there were 7,457 births at CM Health facilities.

Length of stay	Non-Vaginal	Vaginal	Total
<6 hours	0	626	626
6 – 48 hours	205	2,606	2,811
>= 48 hours	1,843	2,177	4,020
Total	2,048	5,409	7,457

Further information on our Maternity and Women's Health services is available in our "*Women's Health and New born Annual Report for the 2017/2018*", which is available at: <https://countiesmanukau.health.nz/our-services/womens-health/>

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