

Clinical : Women's Health
Proactive Release : 23 January 2020

20 January 2020

9(2)(a)

E-mail: 9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Act (1982) Request

I write in response to your Official Information Act request, received by us on 02 December 2019, via the Maternity Service Development Manager. You requested the following information:

The last quality report [Women's Health and New Born 2018/19 Annual Report] gives the number of CM Health subsidised scans.

- a. **Please send me this information [the number of subsidised Maternity ultrasound scans] since the date covered by the report – being 1st May 2019 - 30th November 2019.,**
- b. **As well as the amount paid by CM Health for each scan.**

On 06 December, you submitted a slightly different request, via the OIA Request inbox, extending the time period of the information and adding a further element related to maternity outcomes.

1. **Please provide details of the number of subsidised obstetric scans, and the amount of money paid by CM Health for each of the 2016 to 2019 years.**
2. **Please provide the numbers of stillbirths, neonatal deaths and total births in CM Health facilities, for each of the years 2009 to 2019. Dr Wadsworth will have access to this data.**

Our responses to all of the requests are below:

- a. **Please send me this information [the number of subsidised Maternity ultrasound scans] since the date covered by the report – being 1st May 2019 - 30th November 2019.**

The number of subsidised scans, by scan type - Refer to Table 1:

Scan Type	Vouchers issued
Growth	3,798
Anatomy	1,486
Nuchal	424
Doppler/liquor	221
Grand Total	5,929

Table 1

b. As well as the amount paid by CM Health for each scan.

The subsidy fee co-payment varies depending on the provider and the scan type. All providers align to the contract requirements (**attached at end of this letter**). The detail of payments for each scan has commercial value to both the DHB and to the contracted providers. It is not appropriate to release this detail, as it may adversely impact the DHBs ability to negotiate cost-effective arrangements for our community to access subsidised maternity services in future.

We note that for the current year (2019/20), the budget allocation for the *Co-payment of Urgent Ultrasound* service is \$ 322,760. The total number of scans using funded co-payment vouchers in Quarter 1 2019/2020 was 2,281.

In 2018/19, we paid a total of \$284,202 (including GST) for referrals across this period

Scans using funded co-payment vouchers in July 2018 – June 2019

- 5,474 referrals
- 75 self-funded, but POAC arranged
- 5,399 vouchers to fund scan

1) Please provide details of the number of subsidised obstetric scans, and the amount of money paid by CM Health for each of the 2016 to 2019 years.

The total number and amount paid by CM Health - Refer to table 2:

Period	Total costs of co-payments (inc GST)	Total number of scans using a co-payment
01 July 2016 – 30 June 2017	\$33,579	2,148
01 July 2017 – 30 June 2018	\$128,989	7,740
01 July 2018 – 30 June 2019	\$284,202	5,399

Table 2

2) Please provide the numbers of stillbirths, neonatal deaths, and total births in CM Health facilities, for each of the years from 2009 to 2019, Dr Wadsworth will have access to this data.

a. Total stillbirths, neonatal deaths, for each of the years 2009-2019:

This data has been provided from our Health Intelligence team for the period 2014/15 to 2018/19 (**table 3**). This covers the numbers of cases based on Clinical Coding for stillbirth and live birth/neonatal death. Data prior to this would require significant manual validation.

Data Selection:

- *Baby Outcome data is taken from MCIS and Healthware . Healthware was in use up until October 2015; MCIS started in April 2015. There is a mixture of Healthware and MCIS data in the 2014/15 and 2015/16 fiscal years.*

- *Livebirth, Neonatal Death data is limited in 2014/15 & 2015/16, as this classification was not used in Healthware.*

Stillbirth and Live birth/Neonatal Death

Birth Outcome	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Antepartum Stillbirth	57	44	59	62	54
Intrapartum Stillbirth	2	8	9	13	22
Livebirth, Neonatal Death	3	25	47	31	27
Total	62	77	115	106	103

Table 3

Outcome Volumes

- Date Range: Discharges between 01.07.2014 and 30.07.2019
- Data Sourced: 17.12.2019
- Data Source: CostPro and Healthware

As you are aware, we also collect fuller peri-natal outcome and mortality data for national reporting purposes, and do hold data on these cases back to 2009. Some of those details are also publicly available in our Women’s Health and New born Annual Reports, since 2016/17. There is also national data released in the 12th Annual Report of The Perinatal and Maternal Mortality Review Committee (PMMRC).

b. Total births in CM Health facilities, for each of the years 2009 to 2019:

Refer to table 4 –

Calendar Year	Births
2009	8,137
2010	8,155
2011	8,099
2012	8,092
2013	7,490
2014	7,395
2015	7,319
2016	7,280
2017	7,384
2018	7,397
<i>2019 YTD (to Nov)</i>	<i>6,930</i>

Table 4

- this data includes all births (including a small number of cases not eligible for public funding)

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Apa', with a small blue rectangular mark below it.

Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health

Appendix: Excerpt from Contract 2019-20

B10.6 Pregnancy Related Ultrasound Scan Fund for Service Users experiencing Financial Hardship

- B10.6.1 Counties Manukau Health has agreed to support pregnant women experiencing financial hardship to access certain pregnancy related ultrasound scans, and to fund those pregnancies requiring Obstetric surveillance by covering the co-payment they would ordinarily be charged by the provider for the scan. A maximum of **\$322,760.00 (GST excl.)** has been allocated for this purpose for the 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020 period (the Fund).
- B10.6.2 The Provider agrees to administer the Fund by covering the co-payment charged by ultrasound scan provider where a pregnant woman has cited financial hardship as a barrier to accessing a pregnancy related ultrasound scan. The Provider must ensure that the following requirements are met before any co-payment is paid using the Fund:
- a. The Service User must be living in the Counties Manukau Health catchment area or plan to birth in the Counties Manukau Health catchment area.
 - b. The Service Users must be referred to the Provider by a health professional who is a “access holder” for Counties Manukau Health.
 - c. The referring health professional must confirm that the co-payment presents a financial barrier to accessing the pregnancy related scan.
 - d. The scan must be pregnancy related (other than a ‘dating’ scan which is not funded under this Agreement) and clinically indicated.
 - e. The ultrasound scan provider must confirm that they have completed the relevant scan and that they have not charged the Service User a co-payment for the scan.
 - f. The co-payment must be in line with what the ultrasound scan provider would have charged the Service User for the scan provided.
- B10.6.3 The Provider will submit an invoice to Counties Manukau Health each month detailing the co-payments that have been paid during the month.