

Clinical - Mental Health & Addictions
Proactive Release 05 March 2020



26 February 2020

9(2)(a)

Email: 9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Official Information Act (1982) Request

I write in response to your Official Information Act (OIA) request received by us on 30 January 2020. You requested the following information about addiction services and subsequent wait-times to access them from the Ministry of Health, and they notified you of a partial transfer of the request to DHBs to provide responses to parts 3 and 6 (in bold):

1. Can you please provide a list of the different types of addiction services people can access through the public health system?
2. How many rehab and detox beds are currently available through the public health system for people addicted to drugs and alcohol?
3. **How many people were put on a waitlist to access detox and rehab addiction services each year over the past four years (2016 – 2019)**
4. **Can each year please be broken down into months i.e. the number of people each month put on a waitlist?**
5. **Can the waitlisted people please be broken down into category i.e. what service it was that they were wanting to access, and were subsequently waitlisted for?**
6. **Can you please categorise these waitlisted people into wait-times. i.e. those who had to wait 5 weeks, 6 weeks, 7 weeks and so on.**

As context for this response, Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 569,400 people), as well as regional and supra-regional specialist services (Burns, Plastics and Orthopaedics). Our specialist mental health services are delivered via hospital, outpatient/ ambulatory and community-based models of care.

Many Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) treatment services in Counties Manukau are delivered through the metro-Auckland Community Alcohol and Drug Service (CADS) provided by Waitemata DHB. However, there are a range of regional and local NGO services, funded to complement these CADS services.

Responses to your requests for Counties Manukau Health mental health and addiction services are below:

Part 3: How many people were put on a waitlist to access detox and rehab addiction services each year of the past four years (2016-2019).

NGO Providers:

CM Health does not seek or hold NGO provider wait list data. Consequently, we decline this element of the request under section 18(e) of the Act – the information is not held. However, we can provide the following information, which may provide context.

The data below (**Table 1**) reports the total number of individuals living in the CM Health district who were *referred* to NGO residential rehabilitation services each year. The available NGO residential services comprise both regional (metro-Auckland) and local (Counties Manukau) located services.

Calendar	2016	2017	2018	2019
NGO residential	425	378	516	531

Table 1

CADs:

The regional CADs Services only collects total waitlist numbers data on those referred to their Medical Detoxification inpatient beds. All other CADs services (e.g. counselling, groups and pregnancy and parental services), do not have capped referral or caseload volumes, and therefore don't operate a waitlist.

The data below (**Table 2**) reports the number of individuals living in the CM Health district who have been on the wait list for the CADs Medical Detox service inpatient beds, by year.

Calendar	2016	2017	2018	2019
CADs detox	123	138	123	131

Table 2

Please note the data may include multiple instances of the same client being referred to the services at different time periods.

Part 4: Can each year please be broken down into months (i.e. the number of people each month put on a waitlist)?

NGO Providers:

CM Health does not capture NGO provider wait list data. Consequently, we decline this element of the request under section 18(e) of the Act.

CADs:

Data (**Table 3**) for Counties Manukau population on waitlist for CADs Medical Detox service beds by month for the years 2016-2019.

Calendar	2016	2017	2018	2019
Jan	10	13	10	7
Feb	14	11	10	16
Mar	11	10	10	11
Apr	12	10	13	10
May	10	13	7	11
Jun	10	10	10	10

Calendar	2016	2017	2018	2019
Jul	12	6	9	15
Aug	7	15	9	11
Sep	10	17	9	3
Oct	7	12	15	13
Nov	14	13	12	14
Dec	6	8	9	10

Table 3

Part 5: Can the waitlisted people please be broken down into category (i.e. what service it was that they were wanting to access, and were subsequently waitlisted for)?

NGO: CM Health does not capture NGO provider wait list data. Consequently, we decline this element of the request under section 18(e) of the Act. We note that NGO providers support a range of community based and residential services.

CADs: Clients who are seeking Medical Detox services are wait-listed on the CADs Detox wait list, details as noted above. As above, we note that other elements of the CADs services do not have capped referrals.

Part 6: Can you please categorise these waitlisted people into wait times. (i.e. those who had to wait 5 weeks, 6 weeks, 7 weeks and so on).

NGO Providers:

While CM Health does not capture data on total wait list numbers for people referred to NGO residential services, we do capture length of wait times for individuals referred, until acceptance by the NGO provider.

Data (**table 4**) reports the wait times for clients that have been referred to NGO residential services.

Calendar	2016	2017	2018	2019
0-1 week	382	331	477	482
2 weeks	5	4	8	12
3 weeks	5	9	6	7
4 weeks	7	4	2	8
5 weeks	3	4	6	9
6 weeks	2	3	6	2
7 weeks	4	3	3	2
8 weeks	1	3	1	0
>8 weeks	16	17	7	9

Table 4

Please note the data includes all referrals to NGO residential (i.e. both local and regional services).

CADs:

Data (**Table 5**) provides the wait time length for Counties Manukau residents, admitted to the regional CADs In-patient Medical Detoxification Unit:

Wait time analysis for clients that have been admitted to Detox IPU for Counties Manukau
 Detox IPU admissions between '1 Jan 2016' and '31 Dec 2019'

	<3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	>4-5 Weeks	>5-6 Weeks	>6-7 Weeks	>7-8 Weeks	8+ Weeks	Grand Total
2016								
Jan	5	2	4					11
Feb	2							2
Mar		2	3	1				6
Apr	7		3	1	1			12
May	3		1	1				5
Jun	7	1	1	3				12
Jul	2	1	1					4
Aug	2	1	2	1				6
Sep	5		2	1				8
Oct	4							4
Nov	4	1						5
Dec	8			1				9
2017								
Jan	7	1			1			9
Feb	8	2						10
Mar	10	1						11
Apr	9	1						10
May	6	1						7
Jun	3	3	1					7
Jul	6	1	1					8
Aug	8	1	1					10
Sep	3	3						6
Oct	6	1	4	2				13
Nov	7	3	3					13
Dec	4	2						6
2018								
Jan	2	4		1				7
Feb	6	3						9
Mar	4	3	1					8
Apr	5	5						10
May	2	2	2					6
Jun	3							3
Jul	2	1						3
Aug	4	2	1	2	2			11
Sep	1			1	1			3
Oct	8		1			1		10
Nov	6	1		2				9
Dec	6	1			1			8
2019								

	<3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	>4-5 Weeks	>5-6 Weeks	>6-7 Weeks	>7-8 Weeks	8+ Weeks	Grand Total
Jan	1		2	1		1		5
Feb			2	3				5
Mar	6	4	2	2				14
Apr	2		1		1			4
May	3		1			3		7
Jun	5	1				1		7
Jul	2				1	1		4
Aug	2	2				1		5
Sep	1			1		1	6	9
Oct	3		1			1	3	8
Nov	4	2	1		1			8
Dec	5	2				1	2	10
Grand Total	209	61	42	24	9	11	11	367

Table 5

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 Officer
Counties Manukau Health