

## Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 29 May 2019 for:

- 1. How many PRIME practitioners are there in New Zealand?*
- 2. A breakdown of how many of these are doctors, how many nurse practitioners, and how many registered nurses (if there are any other possibilities, please also include those)*
- 3. A breakdown of PRIME practitioner numbers by region/DHB area*
- 4. A list of the Waikato clinics which have PRIME practitioners, and their locations*
- 5. Five other examples (outside the Waikato) of towns/areas with PRIME practitioners*
- 6. Nationally, how many callouts did PRIME practitioners attend in 2018, and so far in 2019?*
- 7. In the Waikato, how many callouts did they attend in 2018, and so far in 2019?*
- 8. Five examples of the kinds of incidents PRIME practitioners might attend.*
- 9. How long has PRIME been running?*
- 10. Nationally, how much was it funded in 2018?*
- 11. Anything else you wish to add.*

I will respond to your questions in turn.

- 1. How many PRIME practitioners are there in New Zealand?*

The Ministry of Health (The Ministry) and the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) jointly funds St John New Zealand for the PRIME (Primary Response in Medical Emergencies) service. As at 17 June 2019, St John New Zealand reported there was 520 PRIME responders in New Zealand.

- 2. A breakdown of how many of these are doctors, how many nurse practitioners, and how many registered nurses (if there are any other possibilities, please also include those).*

The Ministry does not hold the information you have requested. Therefore your request is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act as the information is not held by the Ministry and I

have no reason to believe it is held by any other department or Minister of the Crown. You may wish to contact St John New Zealand for the information they hold.

3. A breakdown of PRIME practitioner numbers by region/DHB area.

The Ministry of Health (The Ministry) does not hold the information you have requested. Therefore your request is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act as the information is not held by the Ministry and I have no reason to believe it is held by any other department or Minister of the Crown. You may wish to contact St John New Zealand for the information they hold.

4. A list of the Waikato clinics which have PRIME practitioners, and their locations

A list of Waikato clinics which have PRIME practitioners is listed below:

- Coromandel
- Colville
- Raglan
- Kawhia
- Te Kuiti
- Whangamata

Please find attached a map of the area showing the location of each clinic.

5. Five other examples (outside the Waikato) of towns/areas with PRIME practitioners.

As at 1 June 2019 we have 76 physical PRIME sites listed below:

<b>NORTH ISLAND</b>	<b>SOUTH ISLAND</b>
PROVIDER LOCATION	PROVIDER LOCATION
<b>NORTHLAND</b>	<b>CANTERBURY</b>
DARGAVILLE/RUAWAI	AKAROA
FAR NORTH/WHAKAWHITI ORA PAI	CHATHAM ISLANDS
RUSSELL	FAIRLIE
KAIWAKA	GERALDINE
MANGAWHAI	TWIZEL
MAUNGATUROTO	WAIMATE
WELLSFORD	METHVEN
	RAKAIA
	AMBERLEY
<b>AUCKLAND</b>	AMURI
COLVILLE	HANMER SPRINGS
COROMANDEL	CHEVIOT
GREAT BARRIER ISLAND	KAIKOURA

GREAT BARRIER ISLAND	OXFORD
WHANGAMATA	WAIKARI
<b>CENTRAL EAST</b>	<b>SOUTHLAND</b>
KATIKATI	ALEXANDRA
KAWERAU	CROMWELL
TE KAHA	ROXBURGH
MURUPARA	WANAKA
TURANGI	OUTRAM
	PALMERSTON
<b>CENTRAL SOUTH</b>	MIDDLEMARCH
BULLS/MARTON	LUMSDEN
BULLS/MARTON	TAPANUI
PATEA	TE ANAU
TAIHAPE	TOKANUI
	KUROW
<b>CENTRAL WEST</b>	LAWRENCE
KAWHIA	RANFURLY
RAGLAN	OTAUTAU
TE KUITI	RIVERTON
	STEWART ISLAND
<b>CENTRAL SOUTH EAST</b>	TUATAPERE
MARTINBOROUGH	WINTON
	<b>TASMAN</b>
	FOX GLACIER
	FRANZ JOSEF
	HAAST
	HOKITIKA
	MOANA
	HARIHARI
	WHATAROA
	KARAMEA
	MURCHISON
	REEFTON
	NGAKAWAU
	WESTPORT
	MOTUEKA
	TAKAKA
	RENWICK/WAIRAU VALLEY

6. *Nationally, how many callouts did PRIME practitioners attend in 2018, and so far in 2019?*

PRIME practitioners attended 3722 incidents in 2018 and to 1452 incidents for the period of January to May 2019.

7. *In the Waikato, how many callouts did they attend in 2018, and so far in 2019?*

Prime Practitioners in Waikato	Call outs in 2018	Call outs in 2019
Coromandel	86	32
Colville	19	16
Raglan	7	7
Kawhia	38	16
Te Kuiti	32	20
Whangamata	188	91

8. *Five examples of the kinds of incidents PRIME practitioners might attend.*

The PRIME service is designed to support the Emergency Ambulance Services in rural areas by responding to Medical and Trauma Emergencies. These incidents are categorised by acuity;

- PURPLE (immediately life threatening),
- RED (potentially life threatening or time critical),
- ORANGE (urgent or potentially serious).

The PRIME service is dispatched to incidents that are immediately life threatening (purple) and potentially life threatening (red). This could include car accidents, heart attacks, and other injuries varying in severity.

9. *How long has PRIME been running?*

The PRIME Service was first established in 1998 in the South Island following a rural general practitioner's advocacy to design a new integrated pre-hospital system. Roadside to Bedside (1999) provided a framework for a 24-hour clinically integrated acute management system, and its implementation plan required the PRIME Service to be rolled out nationally.

10. *Nationally, how much was it funded in 2018?*

Nationally the Ministry funds PRIME \$1.9 million per annum. Additional funding are allocated as required for improvements such as AED or Kit upgrades. ACC also funds PRIME activities.

I trust that this information fulfils your request. Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

Yours sincerely



Keriana Brooking

**Deputy Director-General**

**Health System Improvement and Innovation**

# WAIKATO DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD

