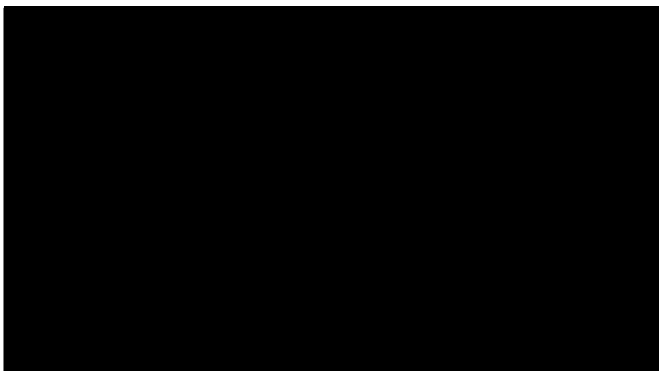


28 July 2020



**Re Official Information Request – Professionals working in NZ from overseas**

I refer to your official information request dated 8 July 2020 requesting the following information:

I'm a Stuff reporter looking into the effect Covid has had on the health sector, given many health professionals working in New Zealand come from overseas. I'm asking all DHBs about the impact this has had on them.

**I would like to know:**

**1. What percentage of your usual clinical workforce is overseas-trained?**

Auckland DHB does not keep records of whether an employee is overseas trained or not, however, as part of the quarterly data submissions to TAS, they have provided us with this data for our recent submission as at 30th March 2020.

Percentage of Auckland DHB Clinical Workforce as at 30th March 2020

NZ trained	Overseas trained	Unknown
49.9%	25.9%	24.2%

\*Excludes contractors and employees on Parental Leave or long term leave without pay

**2. If possible, please provide percentages of overseas-trained staffers in each of these categories: doctors, nurses, midwives, and allied health, science and technical professionals**

Percentages of staff by Professional Group as at 30th March 2020

Professional Group	NZ trained	Overseas trained	Unknown
Allied Health	32.6%	13.0%	54.4%
Nursing	55.4%	30.8%	13.8%
Midwifery	48.9%	25.2%	25.9%
Medical	58.2%	30.2%	11.6%

\*Excludes contractors and employees on Parental Leave or long term leave without pay

**3. What impact do you expect border restrictions to have on the DHB workforce over the next year?**

We expect border restrictions to have a minimal impact on Auckland DHB's workforce as we can still bring in qualified healthcare workers under the immigration exemptions processes and our turnover rates are lower than usual which has reduced the volume pressure.

**4. Are there specialities likely to be under pressure as a result of border restrictions? For example, because there is a small workforce in New Zealand or because of overseas training needs. If so, which specialties?**

As per above, there is not likely to be any pressure on any specialty due to the border restrictions themselves as there are exemptions for qualified healthcare workers.

**5. Is your DHB currently recruiting for any clinical positions which you cannot fill with New Zealand applicants?**

Yes, this is the ongoing normal situation that fluctuates across positions types. It is hard to be definitive with such questions as over time the situation can change quite significantly.

**6. If so, how many, and what is/are the positions?**

Job title	Position Count
Consultant Psychiatrists	4
Clinical Psychologists	5
Mental Health Nurses	8
Anaesthetic Technicians	7
SCD Radiation Oncologist	1
Medical Physicist	4
Staff Radiation Therapist	4
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon	1
Orthopaedic Surgeon	1
Gynae oncologist	1
Paediatric Respiratory and Sleep Medicine SMO	1
Paediatric Gastroenterologist SMO	1
Fellow – Emergency Department	2

Physician – General Medicine	1
Senior experienced SLT	2
Immunologist	1
Section Leader, Diagnostic Genetics	1
Advanced Clinical Pharmacist	1
Senior Pharmacist	1
Advanced Clinician Physio, Cardiac Outpatients	1
Technical Specialist, Diagnostic Genetics	1
Lead Pharmacist - Procurement	1

7. Have you had any overseas-trained and recruited clinicians cut contracts short and return home because of Covid?

8. If so, how many, and in what category (doctor, nurse...)?

We are unable to answer questions seven and eight because it would require substantial collation and research therefore we are declining this portion of your request under section 18(f) of the Official Information Act.

You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

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

Yours faithfully

  
Ailsa Claire, OBE  
Chief Executive

