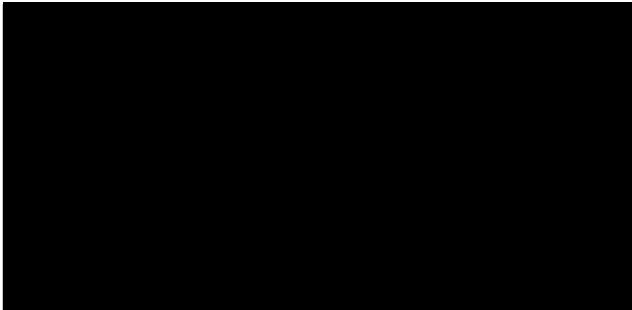


26 February 2021



Re: Official Information Act request – Percentage coverage diabetic retinal screening

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 10 February 2021 requesting the following information:

Can I please ask:

If measured or estimated, can I please ask for the percentage coverage for diabetic retinal screening (i.e., the proportion of people with diabetes who have had a retinal screen within the last two years, or other reporting period)?

Retinal screening coverage as at 30 September 2020

The following information includes:

- Adults enrolled with a general practice within the Auckland DHB catchment and coded as diabetic who have received a publically funded diabetic retinal screen by one the metro Auckland DHBs diabetic retinal screening services in the previous two or three years.

Data caveats:

- Not all practice data is included in this report. Data was provided for 135 out of 147 general practices based in the Auckland DHB catchment.
- People who are not enrolled with a PHO are not included.
- People who live in metro Auckland but are enrolled with a PHO outside of metro Auckland are not included.
- Retinal screening undertaken by private specialists is not included.
- Retinal screening undertaken in a DHB outside metro Auckland is not included.
- Retinal screening undertaken overseas is not included.

Table 1: Retinal screening coverage for Auckland DHB by ethnicity at September 2020

Ethnicity	Percentage screened in past 2 years	Percentage screened in past 3 years
Māori	45%	57%
Pacific	43%	53%
Asian	52%	62%
Other	51%	60%
Total	49%	59%

Table 2: Retinal screening coverage for Auckland DHB at December 2019 and September 2020

Percentage screened in past 2 years		Percentage screened in past 3 years	
Dec 2019	Sep 2020	Dec 2019	Sep 2020
57%	49%	62%	59%

COVID-19 has had an impact on retinal screening coverage across all DHBs. This impact is believed to be multifactorial with several contributing factors i.e. clinics closed during lockdown periods, reduced clinic capacity when clinics did reopen and also people with diabetes preferring to defer their retinal screen.

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 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 of Te Toka Tumai (Auckland District Health Board)