

4 August 2021

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**Re: Official Information Act request – Contraception funding**

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 8 July 2021 requesting the following information:

I am following up on this press release from 2019: [https://smex12-5-en-ctp.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/query?url=https%3a%2f%2fwww.beehive.govt.nz%2frelease%2fthousands%2dwomen%2dbenefit%2dcontraceptive%2dchanges&umid=3dbe30a2\\_ab86-410f-a7e7-bc862a5c7b8b&auth=4208f9d292d4bb72367c9cdb6e8d9affc9f9dfab-673c578267a93358aed079c715dd2a089de008da](https://smex12-5-en-ctp.trendmicro.com:443/wis/clicktime/v1/query?url=https%3a%2f%2fwww.beehive.govt.nz%2frelease%2fthousands%2dwomen%2dbenefit%2dcontraceptive%2dchanges&umid=3dbe30a2_ab86-410f-a7e7-bc862a5c7b8b&auth=4208f9d292d4bb72367c9cdb6e8d9affc9f9dfab-673c578267a93358aed079c715dd2a089de008da) about the total of \$6 million per annum in funding that was allocated to the better access to contraception initiative.

As I understand, this funding was allocated to the 20 DHBs to be delivered within primary healthcare.

I want to know how this funding has been allocated and spent over the last 2 years:

1. Is it possible to get a full breakdown of how much of the \$6 million ADHB receives, how, where and to who they've been distributing it and
2. Whether the funding has been used up or if it has been underspent.

**Question 1**

Auckland District Health Board (Auckland DHB) received revenue from the Ministry of Health for the provision of contraception access over three financial years, including 2018/2019 (partial year), 2019/2020 (12 months) and 2020/2021 (12 months). The annual amounts received were:

2018/2019: \$259,185.90

2019/2020: \$518,371.80

2020/2021: \$518,371.80

The funding was for contraceptive access services including the provision of free insertion and removal of long acting reversible contraception (LARC) and low cost contraception consultations for women aged 15 to 44 years who are Māori, Pacific or live in quintile 5 areas; hold a community services card; and/or are at high risk of unplanned pregnancy and poor health and social outcomes. The agreement also included liaising with local and national providers for health professional training in LARC procedures; establishment of referral pathways for free LARCs and contraception consultations for community alcohol and drug services and maternity services; and funding and monitoring the quality of services.

During the establishment phase of the project, Auckland DHB allocated funding for newly established clinics. The aim was that these clinics would be nurse-led where possible. These community clinics were based in Glen Innes, Three Kings and Lunn Ave. The Lunn Ave clinic also provided training to other health professionals. Services were also available at Greenlane Clinical Centre, which also provided training opportunities for clinicians. The link to these services is:

<https://www.nationalwomenshealth.adhb.govt.nz/our-services/contraception-clinic/>

As part of this programme and funding, there was also a strong focus by the DHB on postnatal contraception and post-abortion contraception. (Post-abortion services did not receive additional funding where it was already an expectation that they should be provided.) Sexual health clinics were also supported to provide LARCs.

Finally, in this initial phase, there was a focus on development of LARC capacity within other existing services, through additional training. This included training being made available to clinicians at school based health services in ten lower decile secondary schools (where the DHB already funds nurses and general practitioners (GPs)).

Family Planning Association are funded directly by the Ministry of Health to deliver LARCs.

An assessment of delivery through this network (based on volume of services provided in the 2018/2019 FY), established that this network of services did not achieve the reach into the community that was desired. Consequently, an expression of interest (EOI) process was run to obtain additional providers in December 2019. As a result of the EOI process (and the ongoing engagement of new providers), there is now a network of an additional 15 providers across Auckland.

The current providers are listed below.

Clinic Name	Contact details
Avondale Health Centre	Address: 39 Layard Street, Avondale, Auckland 1026 Phone: +64 9-828 2066 <a href="http://www.avondalehealth.co.nz">www.avondalehealth.co.nz</a>
AUT University Wellesley St	City Campus 55 Wellesley Street East, WB Building Level 2, Auckland 1010 Mon-Wed, Fri Phone: 09 921 9992 <a href="http://www.aut.ac.nz/student-life/student-support">www.aut.ac.nz/student-life/student-support</a>

Clinic Name	Contact details
Auckland City Mission -Calder Centre	23 Union Street, Auckland CBD, Auckland 1010, New Zealand Phone: +64 9-303 9266 <a href="https://www.aucklandcitymission.org.nz/what-we-do/health-the-calder-centre/">https://www.aucklandcitymission.org.nz/what-we-do/health-the-calder-centre/</a>
Auckland Medical Aid Centre	289 f, 1st floor/283 Dominion Road, Mount Eden, Auckland 1024, New Zealand Phone: +64 9-638 6040 <a href="https://amac.org.nz/">https://amac.org.nz/</a>
Aotea Health	72 Hector Sanderson Road, Great Barrier Island / Aotea 0991, Phone: +64 9-429 0356 <a href="https://aucklandpho.co.nz/practices/aotea-health/">https://aucklandpho.co.nz/practices/aotea-health/</a>
Elstree Ave Family Doctors	Address: 17 Elstree Avenue, Glen Innes, Auckland 1072, Phone: +64 9-528 3323 <a href="https://www.elstreeavefamilydrs.co.nz/">https://www.elstreeavefamilydrs.co.nz/</a>
Family Health Matters	Address: 137 West Tamaki Road, Glen Innes, Auckland 1050 Phone: +64 9-973 4106 <a href="https://familyhealthmatters.nz">https://familyhealthmatters.nz</a>
Health Connections at Youthline	Address: 13 Maidstone Street, Grey Lynn, Auckland 1021 Phone: +64 22 428 8396 <a href="https://healthconnections.co.nz/">https://healthconnections.co.nz/</a>
Lifeline Medical Centre	463 Great South Road, Ōtāhuhu, Auckland 1062, Phone: +64 9-276 2822 <a href="https://www.lifelinemedical.co.nz">https://www.lifelinemedical.co.nz</a>
Mt Wellington Family Health Centre	Address: 283 Penrose Road, Mount Wellington, Auckland 1060 Phone: +64 9-570 2999 <a href="https://www.mtwellingtondoctors.co.nz/">https://www.mtwellingtondoctors.co.nz/</a>
Orakei Health Services	Eastridge Shopping Centre: 25/215 Kapa Road, Mission Bay, Auckland Phone: +64 9-578 0956 <a href="https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/orakei-health-services-g...">https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/orakei-health-services-g...</a>
Piritahi Hauora	54 Tahatai Road, Oneroa, Waiheke Island, Auckland 1081, Phone: +64 9-372 0022 <a href="https://www.piritahi.co.nz">https://www.piritahi.co.nz</a>

Clinic Name	Contact details
Turuki Health Centre	62 Queens Rd, Panmure, Auckland Phone: 09 570 8643 <a href="https://turukihealthcare.org.nz/">https://turukihealthcare.org.nz/</a>
University of Auckland Grafton Campus	85 Park Road, Grafton Phone : 0800 698 427 <a href="https://www.auckland.ac.nz › personal-support › studen...">https://www.auckland.ac.nz › personal-support › studen...</a>
University of Auckland City Campus	University Health and Counselling Level 3, Kate Edger Information Commons, 2 Alfred Street, Auckland Phone: 0800 698 427 <a href="https://www.auckland.ac.nz › personal-support › studen...">https://www.auckland.ac.nz › personal-support › studen...</a>

### Funding

The Auckland DHB provider arm received \$189,862 of the funding to develop and deliver community contraception clinics and other services spread over two financial years, 2018/2019 and 2019/20 and a further \$310,000 in 2020/2021.

From 2019/2020, the remainder of the revenue funding was available to the providers listed above via the claiming mechanism within Primary Options for Acute Care (POAC), noting the number of providers has increased over time. An administration fee is also paid to POAC. The fee schedule for clinical services is listed on the POAC site. Information for providers who wish to become part of the network of providers and claim for them under POAC can also be found there. The link to the POAC site is:

<https://www.poac.co.nz/larc-auckland-dhb-and-waitemata-dhb/>

We are currently in the process of varying the POAC pricing, to better align it with the pricing schedule used by Counties Manukau DHB based on feedback from providers that this would make it easier for practices, especially those with patients crossing DHB boundaries. The revised pricing will be communicated to GPs and other providers once it has been updated on the POAC website.

The updated pricing will be as follows in Table 1.

**Table 1: Clinical Assessments Limited claims administration under Primary Options for Acute Care**

Schedule of fees	Fee (GST exclusive)	Fee (GST inclusive)
<b>Consultations:</b>		
LARC consult only (CSC holder)	\$19.00	\$21.85
LARC consult only (Non CSC holder)	\$40.00	\$46.00
LARC consult only (non-enrolled patient)	\$60.87	\$70.00
<b>Insertion or removal procedures:</b>		
Jadelle insertion	\$150.00	\$172.50
IUCD insertion	\$150.00	\$172.50
Jadelle removal, no insertion	\$150.00	\$172.50
IUCD removal, no insertion	\$75.00	\$86.25
Removal and replacement (same device)	\$225.00	\$258.75
Removal IUCD and replacement Jadelle	\$225.00	\$258.75
Removal Jadelle and replacement IUCD	\$278.26	\$320.00
Unsuccessful insertion or removal requiring referral	\$50.00	\$57.50
IUD/IUCD string check/shortening	\$50.00	\$57.50
Use of disposable long handled scissors for string shortening	\$20.00	\$23.00

## Question 2

Funding for this initiative has been underspent to date.

As with other DHBs, it took some time to develop the programme, train staff and communicate services. Communicating services remains a focus for the DHB and with the broad network now in place, we are not expecting an under-spend going forwards.

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 of Te Toka Tumai (Auckland District Health Board)