



ProCare practices achieve health target success

Source: ProCare Health

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ProCare's 180 Auckland general practices have achieved significant success against the Government's health targets, results for the final quarter of 2015/16 confirm.

'We have made tremendous improvements in how many people we are reaching with crucial health promotion advice and screening activity,' said Dr Harley Aish, ProCare Chairman. 'This isn't about numbers, but about making a difference to people's lives, keeping them well and promoting better health outcomes.'

The ProCare network exceeded the targets set for Primary Health Organisations in four out of the five key areas, only narrowly missing out on the immunisation target for two-year-olds.

Over the last five years 93% of ProCare practice's eligible population have had a heart and diabetes check - meaning 224,000 people have had their risk of having a heart attack or stroke assessed, and, where appropriate, having a treatment programme developed.

And 7,000 Aucklanders were supported to quit smoking over the 12 months to 30 June 2016 through brief advice in ProCare practices.

Dr Aish said : 'The efforts of practice clinical teams in supporting people to quit smoking combined with our new stop smoking service for Auckland and Waitemata means that we are having a real impact on the health of our population.'

'We're particularly pleased with the progress ProCare practices are making in cardiovascular screening and smoking advice for high needs populations, where we achieved the same impressive performance as with the overall population.'

Across our network, 82% or 178,000 women have had a cervical smear within the previous three years.

'ProCare is proud that we are reducing the cervical screening inequality gap. Between August 2015 and June 2016 our practices closed this gap for Maori, Pacific and Quintile 5 women by 2.5%,' said Harley.

'I was always going to go for a cervical screen,' said Lynley Hooper of Manurewa. 'However, it just kept slipping. My practice Clendon Medical Centre was really proactive. They wrote to me, called me and texted me. It seemed like it was really important to them. Their effort definitely made a huge difference. It got me to the screening appointment.'

In the past 12 months, practices have immunised 18,000 8-month-olds (95%) and 2-year-olds (94%) to protect them from life-threatening illnesses.

Note to editors:

The Integrated Performance and Incentive Framework (IPIF) targets are:

- More Heart and Diabetes Checks (national target of 90% of the relevant enrolled population)
- Better Help for Smokers to Quit - Primary Care (national target of 90%)
- Increased Immunisation for eight-month-olds (national target of 95%)
- Increased Immunisation for two-year-olds (national target of 95%)
- Cervical Screening (national target of 80%).

-This is the final quarter reporting on these measures. From 1 July new system level measures have been introduced.

-Quintile 5 is the 20% most deprived people within a defined population.

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