

2013-14 General Manager's Report



22 October 2014

Neil Heslop, MNZAS-CCC

Outline



- Service volumes
- Referral patterns , waiting lists, waiting times
- Wellington Clinic
- 2014-15 – major themes looking forward
 - Replacement devices
 - Bilateral Funding
 - Suppliers
 - Outreach and regional patients
- Other items of note
 - Loud Shirt Day
 - Hear for You
 - New referral trends

Service Volumes



- Adult surgical procedures - public
 - 20 from base volumes
 - 29 from one-off monies
 - 5 from children's funding unallocated
- Children's surgical procedures – public
 - 18 from base volumes
 - 2 one-off procedures under a bilateral-funding variation
- Privately funded surgical procedures
 - 7 adults
 - 9 children
- Replacement speech processors
 - 47 devices replaced for both children and adults

New Implants and Total Recipient Numbers



Recipient/Implant Numbers

Adults – New Implants	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11	Recipients - All Years
Public	54	34	19	15	348
Private	6	13	1	3	43
ACC	1	1	0	1	9
War Pensions	0	0	0	0	1
	61	48	20	19	470
Children – New Implants	2013-14	2012-13	2011-2012	2010-2011	All Years
Public	20	19	16	25	186
Private	9	10			
Totals	90	77	36	44	656

Referral patterns and Waiting Times



- Referral of adults for assessment continues to out-strip funding
 - In 2013-14 we received 106 adult referrals
 - In the first quarter of 2014-15 we have received 40 new referrals
- We have 50-55 adults in an assessment waiting list
- We have 60+ adults waiting for surgery/implant funding
- Following assessment, waiting time for surgery for adults has been maintained at no more than 2 years with the input of one-off funds from the Ministry of Health
- There are no significant delays for children referred
 - Referral patterns follow the known incidence of congenital hearing loss
 - Funding is sufficient for this purpose

Wellington Service



- The service was originally launched in 2012-13 and provided paediatric Habilitation only
- The service will shortly launch (from 10 November 2014) with expanded outpatient services
 - We have employed an Audiologist; further part-time Audiology resource may be added in due course
 - A further Habilitation position will be added from early 2015
 - Administration support will be added from early 2015
 - Rehabilitation support will be added in due course

Wellington Service (cont ...)



- Range of services available
 - Switch-on and early follow-up of all children
 - Follow-up for adults 18 months+ post switch-on*
 - Acute/Emergency Audiology appointments for all patients (adults as well as children)
 - Spare parts and repairs

* This will be expanded to include switch-on and early follow-up once a Rehabilitation role is established

Wellington Service (cont ...)



- Roll-out by DHB region
 - Initially in the greater Wellington region where travel and accommodation needs are uncomplicated
 - Progressively in regions where travel and accommodation needs may be more complex (Hawkes Bay, Taranaki, Wanganui, Gisborne)

Wellington Service (cont ...)



- Services that will continue in Christchurch
 - Assessment
 - ORL and Surgery



2014-15

Major themes looking forward

2014-15 continued ...



- Bilateral Funding for Children
 - 23 base volumes increased to 46 for all new candidates 0-19 years
 - 22 children under 6 years offered a second (sequential) implant
 - 40 children with existing (self-funded) second implants to be grand-parented in to the public programme

2014-15 continued ...

- Replacement devices
- The programme has a significant contingent fund for replacement of processors in out-years for all existing recipients*

Funding Year	Replacements	Cost
2014-15	62	\$ 620,000.00
2015-16	70	\$ 700,000.00
2016-17	68	\$ 680,000.00
2017-18	97	\$ 970,000.00
2018-19	81	\$ 810,000.00
		\$ 3,780,000.00

*replacement costs based on a 6-year replacement cycle

2014-15 continued ...



- Supplier arrangements
 - The programme since 2006 has offered a choice of MED-EL or Cochlear Limited equipment
 - In 2014-15 we are offering the Cochlear Limited device, only, to funded patients
 - Existing MED-EL recipients will not be affected
 - Where a second funded device is offered and the first is a MED-EL device then the programme will still fund a MED-EL in the other ear
 - The programme has had to review its supplier arrangements because of:
 - The significant increase in funded volumes from the Ministry of Health
 - The move to bilateral funding for children
 - Obligations under our service agreement with the funder to provide devices at the best value for money

2014-15 continued ...



- Outreach and regional
 - Development of the Wellington service has focussed the spotlight on our regional patients
 - In 2014-15 we will further increase services to the regions
 - We currently provide outreach Habilitation
 - We are likely to introduce outreach Audiology in smaller and more remote centres (e.g. The lower South Island, the West Coast)

Regional Volumes*



Region	Main Centre	Child Nos.	Adult Nos.	Total Nos.	% Caseload
Wanganui	Wanganui	3	2	5	0.79%
New Plymouth	New Plymouth	14	14	28	4.43%
Manawatu	Palmerston North	18	27	45	7.12%
Hawkes Bay	Napier	4	17	21	
	Hastings	5	10	15	
				36	5.70%
Gisborne	Gisborne	3	11	14	2.22%
Wellington	Wellington	24	32	56	
	Lower Hutt	6	20	26	
	Upper Hutt	0	8	8	
	Kapiti	3	8	11	
	Wairarapa	5	11	16	
				117	18.51%
NORTH ISLAND				245	38.77%
Nelson/Marlborough	Nelson	12	26	38	
	Blenheim	1	14	15	
				53	8.39%
West Coast	Greymouth	1	5	6	
	Westport	2	1	3	
				9	1.42%
Canterbury	Christchurch	51	145	196	31.01%
UPPER SOUTH ISLAND				258	40.82%
South Canterbury	Timaru	1	19	20	3.16%
Otago	Dunedin	18	48	66	
	Oamaru	3	12	15	
				81	12.82%
Southland	Invercargill	3	25	28	4.43%
LOWER SOUTH ISLAND				129	20.41%
TOTALS		177	455	632	100.00%

* Figures as at 30 June 2014 based on available data

Other Areas of Note



- Loud Shirt Day
 - The programme continues to benefit from this initiative
 - We usually benefit to the tune of \$20-30,000 per annum

- Hear For You
 - The programme has for the first time hosted this teen mentoring programme in Christchurch
 - The 2014 event concluded successfully in early October
 - This programme has been funded with the assistance of Loud Shirt Day funds

Other Areas of note (cont...)

- Emerging referral trends for asymmetrical hearing loss
 - With the announcement of bilateral funding we are starting to see referrals for asymmetrical hearing loss (children only)
 - The Ministry's position is that is that these individuals do not meet funded criteria
 - The area of “Single Sided Deafness” or asymmetrical hearing loss is an area that MoH may need to address in the medium term

Summary



- Patient numbers continued to grow in 2013-14 particularly adult numbers
- Despite input of resources from the MoH, the volume of adult referrals continues to challenge us
- The bilateral funding announcement from the MoH presents some funding challenges that have necessitated changes in supply arrangements
- The need for replacement devices for existing recipients continues to be a contingency we manage and provide for
- The new Wellington clinic will improve significantly access to the service for a significant number of people
- Delivery of outreach to smaller and more remote centres will be a focus in 2014-15 and beyond