



**AUCKLAND DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD**

Communications

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## **ADHB Media Release**

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### **ADHB Rates Well In Mental Health KPI Report**

A new Key Performance Indicator Framework has found mental health and addiction services offered by Auckland District Health Board (ADHB) compare favourably with many other New Zealand DHBs.

Director of Mental Health Services Dr Clive Bensemman said: “The framework provides standard measures within a wide range of areas important to providers and people who use services.

“The report highlighted areas where ADHB rated well but also some areas where further work is needed to understand why performance varies between the DHBs.

“This is the first time we have had comparable mental health performance data between the DHBs that shows us how we stack-up against our neighbours.

“Each of the DHBs had areas of good performance and areas where they wanted to see improvements.

“This information is an important tool that will allow us to look objectively at the benchmarks, examine our services against others and try to understand what some of the differences are about. We can then assess where we may need to concentrate our efforts into the future.

“We have already identified opportunities for service performance improvement as a result of participating in this process.

“In general, the report shows that the Auckland population can have confidence that its mental health services are performing well on many key indicators.

“For example, ADHB scores show that patients recover well during inpatient care. We also score highly in the number of community treatment days per service user and also in pre-admission and post-discharge community care.

“However, we also have some challenges. The average length of acute inpatient stay, for instance, is well above the average of other DHBs.

“This may be because we provide a lot of care in the community and only those with more severe problems come into the inpatient setting.

“But once they are discharged, our data shows that most do not need to be readmitted, suggesting that the inpatient care achieves good results.

“It is also possible that the longer-than-average stays are effectively limiting people’s ability to come back into the inpatient service.

“We need to look at this and see what the comparative data is telling us over time to determine what opportunities may exist for quality and performance improvement.

“This benchmarking project is a good example of the New Zealand mental health sector working proactively to drive improvement that will ultimately benefit the patient.”

**ENDS**

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