



ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2019

Equitable access to day surgery for rural New Zealand



Welcome

We are delighted to have completed another successful year delivering a range of health and education services to rural New Zealand.

Rural life brings many benefits, but also some challenges including equity of access to health-care. The services we provide on the mobile surgical unit – Te Waka Hauora, are focussed on helping ensure rural patients have an opportunity to receive treatment where they live and work. Our clinical training and video education sessions also continue to support and develop the rural health workforce.

We are pleased to announce that we have signed a new three-year contract with The Ministry of Health. This contract will ensure surgery and education services will extend through to at least 2022. This certainty will enable us to make another significant round of capital investment in the surgical unit including new operating theatre lights, a new anaesthetic machine, and the tractor unit will also now be replaced this year.

Stu Gowland, our founder, retired as Medical Director at the end of March. His impact on rural health cannot be understated, we would like to thank Stu again for his drive and vision in making this business such a success. We welcome Dr Jane MacDonald, a Christchurch based urologist who has taken over as Medical Director.

Thank you to all the individuals and organisations for your work, and the ongoing support of our service.

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Eager'.

Mark Eager – Chief Executive



Surgery

Each operation has a weighting (Case Weight Discharge - CWD) based on its complexity. The service is contracted to provide 650 CWD, but this target was exceeded by 42.8 CWD (6.6%) representing approximately 100 additional patients treated. The service completed 1420 operations on its regular cycle with an additional 155 operations at the Manukau Super Clinic over the new year period.

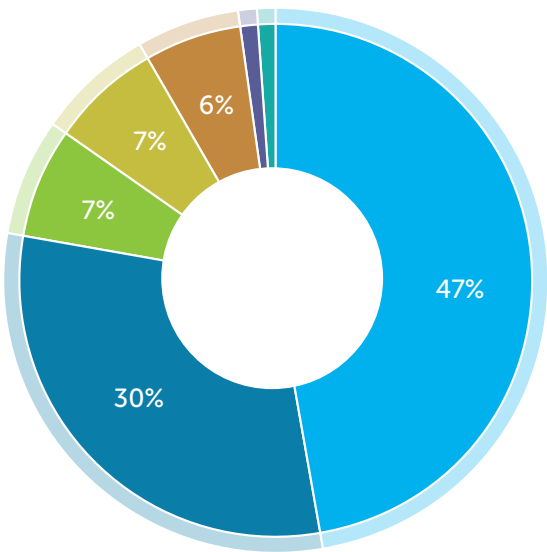
In addition to the great support from our host sites, the District Health Board's (DHB) elective surgery teams have been very supportive in working towards always providing full operating lists. Two specific challenges we continue to work with is the increased BMI of patients on DHB waiting lists, and the 4-month certainty of treatment that DHB's must provide to patients.

692.8

case weights

+6.6%

ahead of target



	Total		Total
Dental	665	Gynae.	100
Endo	433	Orthop.	83
ENT	21	Plastic	20
General	98	Total	1420



Surgical Skills – Rural Nurses

This surgical-skills training for rural nurses working on the surgical unit ensures all surgery completed on the bus is safe. Hands-on clinical training for the roles of scrub, circulating and recovery nurses is overseen by clinical nurse leaders. Each nurse is checked against a list of key skills and competencies required for the peri-operative environment.

2,786
hours of training

+16%
ahead of
target

Surgical Skills – Rural Doctors

When the surgical bus is in a rural town, rural GPs are encouraged to work alongside experienced consultants and anaesthetists. Information covered may include airway anatomy, airway management, LMA insertion, nasal intubation and care of an unconscious patient. These topics have direct relevance as a number of rural GP's are sole charge in rural and remote areas.

85
hours of training

+6.2%
ahead of
target

Advanced Skills

We hosted several advanced training days. In Wanaka, a Suturing Skills and Techniques course was held, and an advanced course in Tokoroa and KeriKeri was developed to cover ECG Interpretation, approach to multi-trauma, airway and BLS skills training, risk assessment and sepsis.

198
hours

+54%
ahead of
target

Continuing Professional Development

The core of the education programme links presenters with specialist knowledge to health teams in rural areas by video-conferencing. Last year 191 different sessions were delivered into 25 different rural towns.

The service is available to any rural health team who are able to select from a wide portfolio of topics relevant to their local area. The presenter will often cover core theory and information first before facilitating discussion specifically related to clinical practice in the rural town environment.

Five webinars were also hosted in partnership with Rural Nurses NZ. These were very successful with nurses attended from as far north as the Hokianga and as far south as Stewart Island

4299
hours of training

+7.5%
ahead of
target

Video Clinical Networking

The core of this program captures interviews from keynote speakers at conferences, making information accessible to people unable to travel to the conference, especially those in rural and remote areas. In the last year we filmed interviews at the following conferences:

- National Rural Health Conference – NZRGPN
- Rural Connectivity Symposium – TUANZ
- Goodfellow Symposium
- Health Informatics NZ Conference – HiNZ
- Conference for General Practice - RNZCGP

77
productions

+10%
ahead of
target

Rural Nurses Meeting

The 2019 Rural Nurses Meeting was the biggest yet with 94 nurses from all over rural NZ attending the meeting in Wellington. The meeting, which included informative and inspirational speakers mixed with hands on clinical workshops, provided rural nurses a unique opportunity to get together, share experiences, learn, and have a break from often demanding rural roles.



The meeting however is a victim of its own success. With rising costs, it became clear that future funding needs to be focussed on our core services, so this will be the last Rural Nurses Meeting in its current format. We will be working with other like-minded organisations to ensure rural nurses have some form of conference forum in the future.

For the record, in 2019 nurses came from Ashburton, Balclutha, Dannevirke, Dargaville, Dunedin, Dunstan, Featherston, Foxton, Gore, Hamilton, Hawera, Kaikohe, Kapiti, Levin, Napier, Oamaru, Otaki, Pukekohe, Queenstown, Rawene, Taihape, Takaka, Taumarunui, Taupo, Temuka, Tokoroa, Waikari, Waipukurau, Wairoa, Wanaka, Whangarei...

Fieldays Health & Wellness Hub

A record number of 25,000 people visited the Health and Wellness Hub at Fieldays this year. Mobile Health co-ordinates the hub in partnership with the National Fieldays Society. With over 30 health organisations under one roof its an ideal opportunity to get people to take a positive step towards better health.



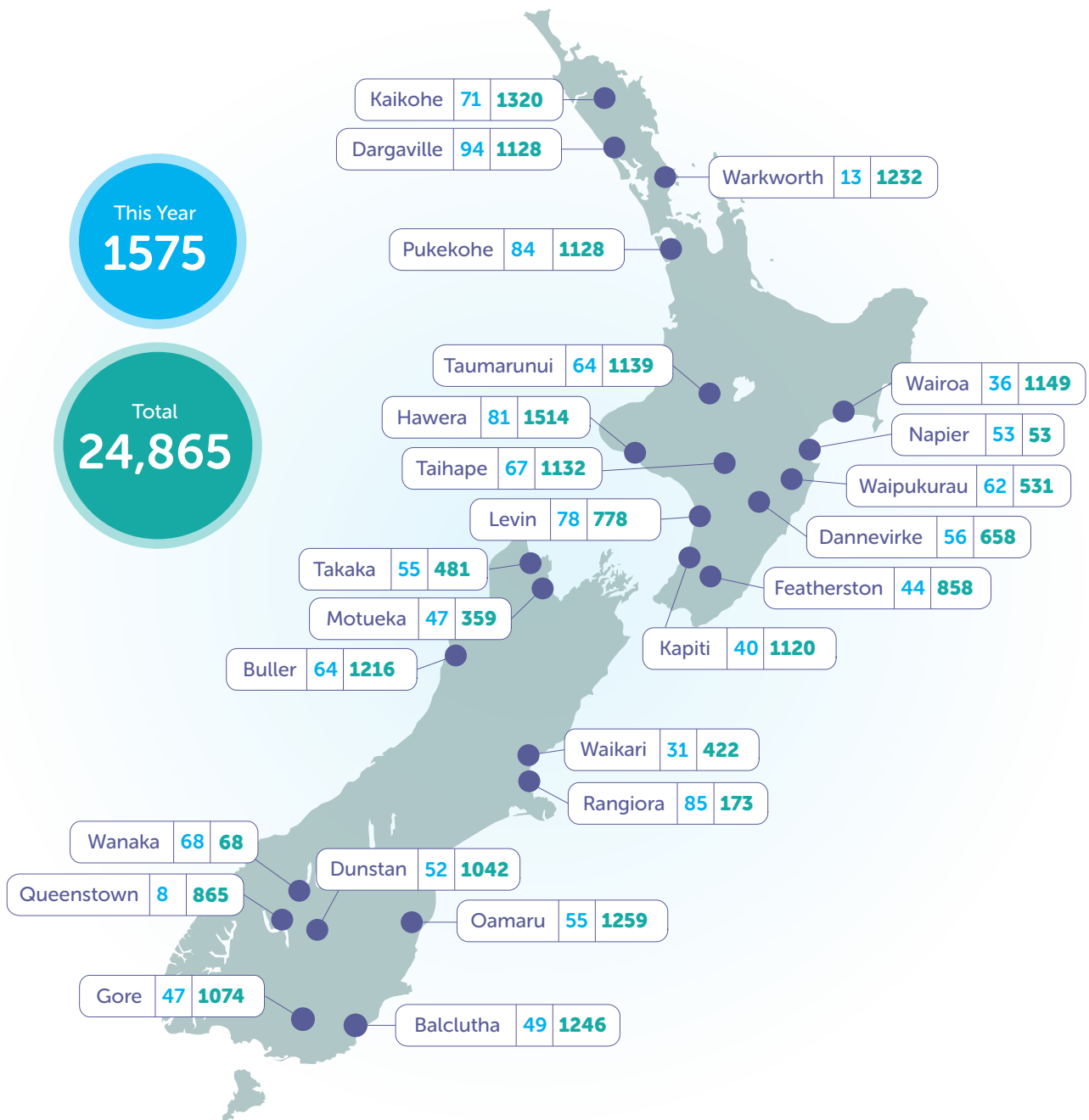
Outcomes are hard to objectively measure, especially in areas such as mental health, but from feedback we do receive it is clear the Hub makes a big difference. As an example in 2017 one exhibitor, FirstCheck, found 10 skin cancers in the demonstrations that they ran. In 2018 over 15% of people checked by MoleMap had skin cancer, and in 2019 we are already hearing of stories, such as Taylah Foden who following a free blood sugar checks by the diabetes team from Waikato DHB, discovered she had diabetes. Multiply that by 25,000 visitors and that's a big impact being made.

Telehealth

Mobile Health runs the NZ Telehealth Resource Centre and the www.telehealth.org.nz website. Working in close partnership with the NZ Telehealth Forum, our team continues to offer free and independent advice and support for any healthcare provider or organisation wanting to start or expand their telehealth program.



Host Locations & Number of Operations



Mobile Health

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Telephone +64 3 977 4524 or 0800 733 677,
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