COPD prevalence among people who aren’t enrolled in a Primary Health Organisation (PHO)

People are eligible to enrol with a Primary Health Organisation (PHO) if they are New Zealand citizens, permanent residents, or meet other criteria, such as holding a relevant visa. When people enrol, they receive regular, ongoing care and cheaper doctors’ visits. Some people are not enrolled in PHOs as they receive their health care through a separate system, for example, Defence Force staff or prisoners. Subsidised medicines are available to New Zealand residents and citizens whether or not they are enrolled with a PHO.

The COPD method excludes people not enrolled in a PHO. This is because the data quality is better for those enrolled in a PHO and we can be more confident in the denominator.

However, there is a concern that people with COPD who aren’t enrolled may be at increased risk of unmanaged or poorly managed chronic respiratory illness. They miss critical opportunities for early intervention, ongoing disease management and preventative care.

Therefore, we sought to capture how many people with COPD are not enrolled in a PHO.

Analysis showed that most people (more than 98 percent) aged 45 and older with COPD are enrolled in a PHO. Only about 1.5 percent – around 995 people – are not currently enrolled. The proportion of people with COPD among those who aren’t enrolled in a PHO increased slightly with age to 2 percent among those aged 75 years or older.

These rates also slightly varied by ethnic group and health district. See Table 1 and Table 2 for results by ethnic group and district respectively.

Table 1: PHO enrolment status among people with COPD by ethnic group

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | People with COPD who aren’t enrolled in a PHO | People with COPD who are enrolled in a PHO | Total |
|  | **n** | % | **n** | % |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Total Māori** | 216 | 1.4 | 14917 | 98.6 | 15,133 |
| **Total Pacific peoples** | 75 | 2.3 | 3167 | 97.7 | 3242 |
| **Total Asian** | 33 | 1.8 | 1780 | 98.2 | 1813 |
| **Total European/Other** | 707 | 1.4 | 49754 | 98.6 | 50m461 |
| **Total** | 995 | 1.5 | 66014 | 98.5 | 67,009 |

Table 2: PHO enrolment status among people with COPD by health district

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Region | Health district | People with COPD not enrolled in a PHO | People with COPD enrolled in a PHO | Total |
|  |  | **n** | % | **n** | % |  |
| **Central** | Hawke's Bay | 47 | 1.3 | 3573 | 98.7 | 3620 |
| MidCentral | 43 | 1.3 | 3226 | 98.7 | 3269 |
| Whanganui | 19 | 1.1 | 1721 | 98.9 | 1740 |
| Capital & Coast | 32 | 1.2 | 2659 | 98.8 | 2691 |
| Hutt Valley | 24 | 1.3 | 1822 | 98.7 | 1846 |
| Wairarapa | 10 | 0.9 | 1049 | 99.1 | 1059 |
| **Northern** | Northland | 60 | 1.5 | 3849 | 98.5 | 3909 |
| Waitematā | 110 | 1.9 | 5557 | 98.1 | 5667 |
| Auckland | 62 | 1.8 | 3344 | 98.2 | 3406 |
| Counties Manukau | 100 | 1.6 | 6055 | 98.4 | 6155 |
| **Te Manawa Taki** | Waikato | 101 | 1.3 | 7516 | 98.7 | 7617 |
| Lakes | 20 | 0.9 | 2130 | 99.1 | 2150 |
| Bay of Plenty | 111 | 2.3 | 4799 | 97.7 | 4910 |
| Tairāwhiti | 11 | 1.1 | 975 | 98.9 | 986 |
| Taranaki | 49 | 2.0 | 2437 | 98.0 | 2486 |
| **Te Waipounamu** | Nelson Marlborough | 26 | 1.1 | 2284 | 98.9 | 2310 |
| West Coast | - | - | - | - | 900 |
| Canterbury | 80 | 1.4 | 5837 | 98.6 | 5917 |
| South Canterbury | 16 | 1.3 | 1176 | 98.7 | 1192 |
| Southern | 70 | 1.4 | 5109 | 98.6 | 5179 |
| **New Zealand** |  | 995 | 1.484875 | 66,014 | 98.51513 | 67,009 |

Note. Values below 10 are represented as a dash (-) in the table