

OIA REQUEST

Received: 14 March 2022
Due: 11 April 2022
Response Date: 05 April 2022
Subject: 22-0040 Clinical Working Hours

Cnr Clarke St & 20th Ave
 Private Bag 12024
 Tauranga 3143
 New Zealand
 Phone 07 579 8000

In response to your request under the Official Information Act, please find our response below:

Request

With regards to general medicine and paediatrics departments.

1. **What is the list of senior medical officers designated to be clinical supervisors for medical students from the university of Auckland (i.e., who are the SMOs who can sign CSRs)?**

Position	FTE
4 x Paediatricians	3.8
2 x Physicians	2.0
1 x Cardiologist	0.9
1 x Gastroenterologist	1.0
1 x Geriatrician	1.0

Note: 0.1FTE of an individual SMO's FTE is allocated for clinical supervision

2. **From above, what is the FTE of each SMO, and number of hours expected on site?**
 FTE shown in table above. Paediatricians and Physicians are on site during business hours.

- (a) **If applicable, what is their salary as per Association of Salaries Medical Specialist contact:**

Payment is based on experience and the applicable step of the ASMS MECA.

- (i) **What has this been for the last 10 years?**

As above

- (b) **If unavailable, what is their generic SMO pay scale?**

Payment is based on experience and the applicable step of the ASMS MECA.

3. **To prevent burn often doctors get rostered time off. How many days in a row can an SMO work as per contact?**

Dependent on their FTE Paediatricians i.e., full time 5 days in the row. But when rostered on call i.e., Weekends they will be available at weekends.

Physicians work 5 days a week with a 1:5 weekend day covering on call. Weekends are split (on-call one day of weekend only) in Tauranga and covered for full weekend in Whakatane with rostered days off the following week for recovery time.



(a) What is the policy around SMO rostered days off?

The Paediatric roster provides for recovery time i.e., no rostered work the period after overnight call.

Physicians are rostered days off. If the duties over a weekend are onerous, the SMO is entitled, and rostered, a day off as recovery time. This is standard in Whakatane where weekend cover includes a full weekend on-call and by arrangement (cover within team) in Tauranga.

(b) What compensation is given when SMO do work beyond their day off? e.g., come in on an RDO?

For paediatrics this is an uncommon occurrence as the roster provides for a 2nd on-call as backup for out-of-hours call.

Physicians are not expected to work on an RDO. In the event of unplanned absence, cover is by mutual agreement with the individual. Physicians are paid an availability allowance and for time worked as per the ASMS MECA.

4. With regards to house officers:

(a) What are the run categories for house officers on paediatrics and general Medicine attachments, ergo number of expected hours?

Paediatric Registered Medical Officer (RMO) Category C 55 – 59.5 average hours per week

(b) What is their pay as per pgy# and run category from above?

PGY1 – 4:

C	55-59.9	88,593	95,742	101,045	106,353
---	---------	--------	--------	---------	---------

Note: Paediatrics is not considered an eligible run for PGY1.

(i) What has this been for the last 10 years?

RMO employment Multi Employer Collective Agreements (MECAs) are re-negotiated every 12-18 months. Annual Salary increases over the past 10 years have been between 2-10% per annum.

(c) What is the maximum number of days house officers in the attachments above have to work in a row?

Paediatrics 10 days

Medicine As per MECAs - 10 days (RDA) 12 days (STONZ)

(d) What is the rostered day off policy for house officers in the rotations mentioned above?

Paediatric House Officers/Senior House Officers are allocated rostered days off Mon/Tues prior to a rostered weekend.

Medical House Officers/ Senior House Officers work a rotating roster.

5. With regards to trainee interns:

Trainee Interns are referred to as 6th year medical students. The curriculum requirements do change as advised by the University of Auckland (UoA) and this can impact on placement runs. Service requirements can also change with patient and staffing demands.

(a) How many hours per week are trainee interns expected to be on placement in runs above.

Paediatrics 08:00 to 16:30 daily

Three long days in the 4-week run, and one weekend with two long days (08:00 to 22:00).

A half day off is taken a week, which largely compensates for time spent on evenings, so the overall average is around 45 hours a week. The placement expectations and structure are reviewed annually with the University, to ensure they are aligned with other placements expectations.

Medicine: A 40-hour week is expected, usually during business hours. Occasionally an evening or weekend may be worked within the total of 40 hours per week.

(b) As they are not paid, what protections are ensured trainee interns have proper rest and food breaks?

Paediatrics - 6th Years are paid a stipend from the Government. As undergraduate adult learners they are not given any tasks that would preclude a meal break. When on-call they are with a Registered Medical Officer (RMO) and will usually eat together.

Medicine: 6th years are entitled to breaks as per clinical staff for their medical runs and take these breaks accordingly.

(c) How many days in a row are trainee interns expected to be on placement?

Paediatrics - 4 week run with one weekend, so one 12-day stretch and 2 x 5-day weeks, with half days off.

Medicine: A 5-day work week on average (5 days in a row).

(d) What is the DHB policy for rostered days off for trainee interns?

Paediatric - Medical students undertake evenings and weekends as learners. They are not rostered whole days off but are able to take a half day off.

Medicine: Rostered days off are according to the UoA curriculum requirements and rosters. The DHB policies for clinical staff apply.

(e) How does the DHB manage the expectations for trainee interns to be present with their health and wellbeing in a demanding field?

For paediatrics and medicine - Supervisors meet every week with the 6th years to ensure the run is progressing, meeting educational needs and to monitoring wellbeing.

Students that need wellbeing support have local options of the Clinical Campus, Employer Assisted Programme (EAP) and University options involving the 6th year co-ordinator.

Health and wellbeing options are available to all students and staff e.g., DHB subsidised gym memberships for onsite gyms.

Bay of Plenty DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist the public understanding of how we are delivering publicly funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website. Please

note this response may be published on our website. [Official Information Act | Bay of Plenty District Health Board | Hauora a Toi | BOPDHB](#)

You have the right to request the Ombudsman investigate and review our response. www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'DB', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

DEBBIE BROWN

Senior Advisor Governance and Quality