

Assisted Dying Service

Quarterly Report, Quarter Four 2024/25

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Foreword

Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora is responsible for overseeing and monitoring all operational aspects of the Assisted Dying Service, including collecting data and generating summary reports. Information continues to be released quarterly, in line with HNZ report cycles based on the financial year.

Due to low numbers, some quarterly data (such as the number of applications by month and region) cannot be reported to protect the privacy of the people engaging with the service.

Please note that the current report reflects a summary of individuals' interactions with the Assisted Dying Service within the three months from 1 April to 31 June 2025. Accordingly, medical assessments and outcomes may refer to applications initiated in a prior quarter.

A detailed report of the first year of service, annual service reports and previously quarterly reports are available on our website: [Assisted Dying Service data and reporting – Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora](#)

The Registrar (assisted dying) is required under the [End of Life Choice Act 2019](#) to provide an annual report to the Minister of Health regarding the operation of the service. This report is due each year by June 30. The most recent Registrar (assisted dying) Annual Report covers the period from April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025 and is available on their website: [Registrar \(assisted dying\) Annual Report – June 2025 | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

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 SCENZ (Support and Consultation for End-of-Life in New Zealand) group and assisted dying practitioners **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Assisted dying service activities this quarter

Overview of assisted dying service

Between 01/04/2025 and 30/06/2025, the service received 241 applications for assisted dying. There were also 83 applications active that had been initiated before this quarterly reporting period.

Attending medical practitioners (AMPs) completed 232 assessments, and independent medical practitioners (IMPs) completed 176 assessments. Psychiatrists also completed some assessments (numbers withheld due to low numbers) in this period. In total, 164 applications were confirmed as eligible.

AMPs facilitated 97 assisted deaths during this quarter.

Of the applications reviewed during this period, 80 were still in progress as of 30/06/2025.

During this quarter, 92 applications did not proceed to an assisted death due to:

- the application being found not to comply with The End of Life Choice Act 2019
- the applicant withdrawing their application
- the applicant is found non-eligible or not competent to give consent at, or following, the assessment
- the applicant dying due to underlying conditions.

Of the 241 applications received during this quarter:

- 79.7% were Pākehā
- 5.4% were Māori
- 48.5% were Female/ Wāhine; 51.5% were Male/Tāne
- 78.4% were aged 65 years or older
- 81.3% were receiving palliative care at the time of the application
- 64.7% had a diagnosis of cancer

Demographic summary of applications

A demographic summary of the 241 applications received this quarter is presented in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Demographics of people that have applied for assisted dying services in the period

Demographic summary		Applications ³	% of applications
Ethnic group ¹	Māori	13	5.39%
	European	192	79.67%
	Other, incl. Asian and Pacific	36	14.94%
Sex	Female/Wāhine	117	48.55%
	Male/Tāne	124	51.45%
	Gender diverse	0	0.0%
	18-64 years	52	21.58%
	65-84 years	148	61.41%
	85+ years	41	17.01%
Diagnosis ²	Cancer	156	64.73%
	Neurological condition	11	4.56%
	Chronic Respiratory Disease	14	5.81%
	Cardio-vascular condition	5	2.07%
	Other organ failures	2	0.83%
	Multiple/Co-Morbidities	44	18.26%
	Not known ⁴	9	3.74%
Receiving palliative care at the time of application?	Yes	196	81.33%
	No	45	18.67%
	Not stated	0	0.0%
Reported a disability at the time of application?	Yes	18	7.47%
	No	223	92.53%
	Not stated	0	0.0%

Notes:

1. Total ethnicity has been used. This means that individuals reporting more than one ethnicity are included within each category to which they identify. Ethnicity in this report is based on patient records in the health system, while in the previous reports ethnicity in the application form was used.

2. Total diagnosis has been used. This means that individuals presenting with multiple diagnoses are included within each applicable diagnostic category.
 3. Valid repeat applications are included as unique instances. This means, in cases where an individual submits multiple applications during this period, their information is recorded in the demographic data each time.
 4. 'Diagnosis not known' includes individuals who have applied but have not yet completed their first assessment with their AMP (Attending Medical Practitioner) as well as those that withdrew, died before this assessment was completed, or were ineligible.
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Assisted deaths by location

Between 01/04/2025 and 30/6/2005, 97 people had an assisted death. Assisted deaths can take place at the person's home or elsewhere in the community. The summary by location is:

- 66 (or 68.04%) at the person's home
- 11 (or 16.67%) in a public hospital
- 20 (or 20.60%) in a community facility (e.g., aged residential care, hospice, retirement home).