

**ADDENDUM TO THE PHYSIOTHERAPY NEW
ZEALAND TRUST'S SECOND SUBMISSION**

SURVEY OF EPN CONTRACTORS

Submitted to:

**Review of the Way in Which Physiotherapy Services are Funded
and Accredited by ACC**

Submitted by:

Physiotherapy New Zealand Trust

Survey of EPN Contractors

On the 15 August 2007, the Physiotherapy Trust Sent an email to 268 EPN Contractors, of those whose email addresses were available, of these approx 220 emails were delivered. The Survey was designed to be very simple and quick to respond to so as to encourage providers to respond.

The EPN Contractors were asked to answer three questions.

“Dear Colleagues

Please see questions and could you answer as soon as possible.

- 1. As an EPN Provider, do you feel bound by the Treatment Profiles.*
- 2. Can you, under your EPN contract treat people to the "maximum practicable extent"?*
- 3. Was it for financial reasons that you Joined the EPN?
Any other comments?*

Kind Regards

Physiotherapy New Zealand Trust”

The Physiotherapy Trust received 33 Responses to the questions, 12% of the group.

The Results

Question 1. *As an EPN Provider, do you feel bound by the Treatment Profiles?*

Yes = 22/33 (67%)
No = 11/33 (33%)

- Of the EPN Contractors who responded, 67% felt bound by the Treatment Profiles. 33% did not feel bound by the Treatment Profiles.

Question 2. *Can you, under your EPN contract treat people to the "maximum practicable extent ?*

Yes = 20/33 (61%)
No = 13/33 (39%)

- Of the EPN contractors who responded, just over 60% felt that they could treat their patients to the Maximum practicable Extent.
- Importantly, 40% of those who responded felt that under their EPN contract, they would not treat patients to the Maximum Practicable Extent.

Question 3. *Was it for financial reasons that you Joined the EPN?*

Yes = 30/33 (91%)

No = 3/33 (9%)

- Nearly all EPN contractors joined the EPN for financial reasons.

ANALYSIS

Preliminary analysis of this data provided surprising results with 31 of the 33 responses grouped into three district groups. These will be explained below.

Group A – 12 EPN Contractors who responded to the Physiotherapy Trust’s Survey with “Yes, No, Yes”

1. Upper North Island – Joined 2004
2. Upper North Island – Joined 2004
3. Upper North Island – Joined 2006
4. Upper North Island – Joined 2006
5. Upper North Island – Joined late 2006
6. Upper North Island – Joined late 2006
7. Lower North Island – Joined 2004
8. Lower North Island – Joined Mid 2005
9. Upper South Island – Joined 2004*
10. Upper South Island – Joined late 2006
11. Lower South Island – Joined 2007
12. Details not available

(* Designates that this provider may have been involved in the EPN Trials)

Group Size – 12

Patterns :-

- Mainly from the North Island.
- Many joined the EPN recently or at the beginning because of financial pressure.
- All joined for financial reasons.
- This entire group stated they joined the EPN for financial reasons.

Group B – 10 EPN Contractors who responded to the Physiotherapy Trust’s Survey’s first two questions with “No, Yes”

1. Upper South Island – 2004*
2. Upper South Island – 2004*
3. Upper South Island – 2005
4. Upper South Island – 2006
5. Lower South Island – 2004*
6. Lower South Island – 2004*
7. Upper North Island – 2004
8. Upper North Island – 2005
9. Upper North Island – 2006
10. Upper North Island – 2006

(* Designates that this provider may have been involved in the EPN Trials)

Group Size – 10

Patterns :-

- The South Island is highly representative in this group.
- A low number of this group have joined since 2006.
- Two of this group stated they did not join the EPN for financial reasons, they were both from the South Island and Joined in 2004.
- All others in this group joined the EPN for financial reasons.

Group C – 9 EPN Contractors who responded to the Physiotherapy Trust’s Survey’s with “Yes” to all questions.

1. Lower North Island – 2004
2. Lower North Island – 2004
3. Lower North Island – 2004
4. Lower North Island – 2005
5. Upper South Island – 2004*
6. Upper South Island – 2007* (Contract Renewal?)
7. Lower South Island – 2004*
8. Lower South Island - 2006
9. Upper North Island – 2004

(* Designates that this provider may have been involved in the EPN Trials)

Group Size – 9

Patterns :-

- The Lower North Island is highly representative in this group.
- A high number of this group joined the EPN in 2004.
- This entire group stated they joined the EPN for financial reasons.

OUTLIERS

1. One Respondent from the Upper South Island felt bound by the Treatment Profiles, said that they could treatment to the Maximum Practicable Extent and did not join the EPN for financial reasons and in fact “took a pay decrease to join the EPN
2. One Physiotherapist did not feel bound by the Treatment Profiles, felt that they could not treat to the Maximum practicable Extent and joined the EPN as all of the surrounding practices had done so and it was the only option.

COMMENTS

A compilation of the Comments made by respondents will be provided in confidence to the Review.