



New Zealand Community Based Dental Services

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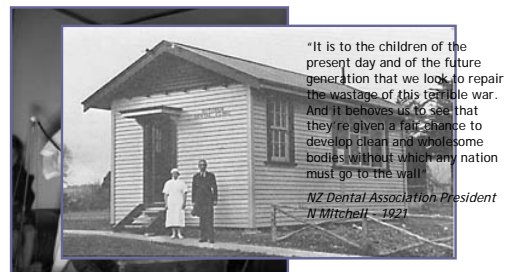
Where is New Zealand?



New Zealand



History of School Dental



"It is to the children of the present day and of the future generation that we look to repair the wastage of this terrible war. And it behoves us to see that they're given a fair chance to develop clean and wholesome bodies without which any nation must go to the wall"

*NZ Dental Association President
N Mitchell - 1921*



School Dental Service

- Public Health Service - 100% Government funded
- Funding provides annual examination and treatment
- Universal access for all NZ residents aged 2½ - 12 years
- Services delivered from school settings by Dental Therapists
- Adolescents (13-18 years of age) - 100% Government funded. Services provided by contracted Private Dentists



Wellington



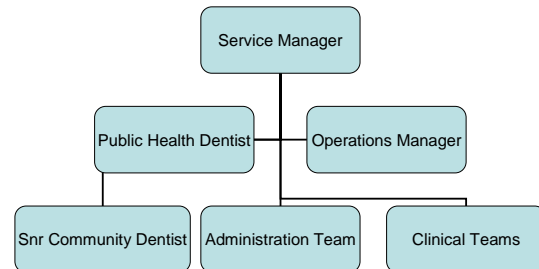


Our Service

- Enrolled Population - 52,000 children
- 97% of Water Supply Fluoridated
- 89 School Based Clinics and 4 Mobile Caravans
- 38 Full Time Equivalent Dental Therapists
- 1 Dental Therapist : 1600 Children
- 2008 - Examined Almost 88% of Population
- Annual Operating Budget - \$5.2 million



Service Structure



Roles & Responsibilities

Service Manager

- Overall responsibility for the service

Public Health Dentist/Clinical Head

- Responsibility for clinical oversight of the service

Operations Manager

- Daily operational management of the service

Snr Community Dentist

- Clinical relationship with Dental Therapists

Dental Therapist

- Provision of clinical care within scope of practice



Dental Therapist Scope of Practice

- Patients to 18 years of age
- Diagnosis including radiography and treatment planning
- Referral to dentist/dental specialist where appropriate
- Preventive care and advice
- Restorative care in primary dentition
- Simple restorative care in permanent dentition
- Extractions in deciduous dentition
- Additional scopes of practice - Pulpotomy & Stainless Steel Crowns



Service Changes

- 2004/05 - National Review
- 2006/07 - Central Government Policy
 - "Good Oral Health For All For Life"
 - Commitment to additional funding envelope of \$140 m
- Wellington
 - 11 Hub Clinics ranging from 2-6 chairs
 - Supported by 11 Diagnostic Mobiles
 - Clinics remain located in school settings
 - Location based on deprivation needs



Challenges

- Dealing with changing public expectation and workforce issues
- 'Passive Users' moving to 'Active Users'
- Establishing effective networks with other primary care providers for those aged 0-4 years
- Early intervention model