

18 April 2023

Anna  
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Tēnā koe Anna,

**Your request for official information reference: HNZ00013734**

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health). On 22 March 2023 Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health) transfer your request to Te Whatu Ora/Health New Zealand for the following which has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act): You have specifically requested:

*“The number of prescriptions in New Zealand for Omeprazole and/or Proton Pump Inhibitor for children and young people under 30 years old (in whichever age bands are available) for EACH YEAR from 2018 to present day.”*

Te Whatu Ora – Health NZ does not hold data on pharmaceutical prescriptions. We hold data on pharmaceuticals dispensed in a community pharmacy. People who received prescriptions but did not pick up their pharmaceuticals are not included in this data.

The tables below provide data on the number of initial dispensings of selected pharmaceuticals, and the number of people who received these pharmaceuticals.

The tables contain information on the number of dispensings for the medicines listed below.

Medicine	Chemical ID	Strength	Formulation ID
lansoprazole	1022	15 mg	102225
		30 mg	102201
Omeprazole	2639	10 mg	263904
		20 mg	263901
		40 mg	263905
		powder	263925
Pantoprazole	1098	20 mg	109802
		40 mg	109801

Table 1: count of initial dispensings of selected publicly funded pharmaceuticals to people aged under 30 years between 2018 and 2022.

Year	Chemical Name	Age Band						Total
		0 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	
2018		8,207	2,968	5,546	13,234	21,660	31,083	82,698
	Lansoprazole	18	27	55	202	405	650	1,357
	Omeprazole	8,188	2,924	5,361	12,343	19,891	28,329	77,036
	Pantoprazole	1	17	130	689	1,364	2,104	4,305

<b>2019</b>		<b>7,901</b>	<b>3,043</b>	<b>5,838</b>	<b>13,479</b>	<b>22,306</b>	<b>33,583</b>	<b>86,150</b>
	<b>Lansoprazole</b>	15	31	61	179	393	705	1,384
	<b>Omeprazole</b>	7,886	2,993	5,643	12,487	20,334	30,465	79,808
<b>2020</b>	<b>Pantoprazole</b>	0	19	134	813	1,579	2,413	4,958
		<b>8,760</b>	<b>3,164</b>	<b>6,208</b>	<b>14,619</b>	<b>24,529</b>	<b>37,773</b>	<b>95,053</b>
	<b>Lansoprazole</b>	9	47	85	234	418	737	1,530
	<b>Omeprazole</b>	8,749	3,096	5,965	13,545	22,357	34,189	87,901
	<b>Pantoprazole</b>	2	21	158	840	1,754	2,847	5,622
<b>2021</b>		<b>9,515</b>	<b>3,311</b>	<b>6,606</b>	<b>15,750</b>	<b>26,161</b>	<b>41,005</b>	<b>102,348</b>
	<b>Lansoprazole</b>	18	45	87	268	407	788	1,613
	<b>Omeprazole</b>	9,495	3,249	6,369	14,579	23,866	37,207	94,765
	<b>Pantoprazole</b>	2	17	150	903	1,888	3,010	5,970
<b>2022</b>		<b>8,493</b>	<b>3,671</b>	<b>6,942</b>	<b>16,244</b>	<b>26,359</b>	<b>40,847</b>	<b>102,556</b>
	<b>Lansoprazole</b>	10	40	70	279	402	763	1,564
	<b>Omeprazole</b>	8,483	3,613	6,724	15,111	24,201	37,114	95,246
	<b>Pantoprazole</b>	0	18	148	854	1,756	2,970	5,746

Please note the following regarding the figures within this table:

- Date extracted on 12/04/2023
- Data source: Te Whatu Ora/Health New Zealand, Pharmaceutical Collection.
- Dispensing dates between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2022.
- Age is reported at time of the dispensing event.
- Counts are of the number of initial dispensings, this excludes repeats.
- The data includes pharmacy prescriptions (for individuals), and excludes bulk and practitioner supply orders.
- Data excludes records created for the purpose of managing claims such as brand switch fees and 'owe claims' where prescription item was not filled and excludes records where chemical formulation information was not recorded.
- Dispensing counts do not include prescription forms that were not filled (eg, patient receives a prescription form from the doctor but does not go to the pharmacy to get it filled).
- Although we have reviewed the provisional data presented here, this data could have unexpected errors that may be picked up through the rigorous data quality checks publication datasets undergo.
- As a result, published data may differ from the provisional data presented here. Published data should be considered the most accurate source and used where possible.
- The Pharmaceutical Collection only counts publicly funded, community dispensed pharmaceuticals and Pharmaceutical Cancer Treatments (PCT); It does not count non-PCT hospital dispensings, drugs not funded by PHARMAC, or prescriptions that were never dispensed. Hence, we have no visibility of the actual number of prescriptions that are written, only those that result in a dispensing.
- The Pharmaceutical Collection is a live dataset, whilst the Pharmaceutical Data Web Tool is a static extract. Comparing the two extracts may result in different figures.

Table 2: count of people aged under 30 years who were dispensed selected publicly funded pharmaceuticals between 2018 and 2022.

Year	Chemical Name	Age Band						Total
		0 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 29	
<b>2018</b>		<b>3,876</b>	<b>1,875</b>	<b>3,883</b>	<b>9,683</b>	<b>14,809</b>	<b>19,963</b>	<b>53,230</b>
	Lansoprazole	11	12	34	138	257	377	813
	Omeprazole	3,869	1,858	3,794	9,238	13,965	18,713	50,672
	Pantoprazole	1	11	93	487	860	1,280	2,677
<b>2019</b>		<b>3,781</b>	<b>1,923</b>	<b>4,020</b>	<b>9,682</b>	<b>15,171</b>	<b>21,365</b>	<b>55,041</b>
	Lansoprazole	7	14	40	133	245	377	800
	Omeprazole	3,778	1,906	3,918	9,212	14,214	19,978	52,204
	Pantoprazole	0	11	95	541	993	1,409	2,999
<b>2020</b>		<b>4,043</b>	<b>1,928</b>	<b>4,139</b>	<b>10,145</b>	<b>16,115</b>	<b>23,180</b>	<b>58,448</b>
	Lansoprazole	8	26	53	159	264	405	887
	Omeprazole	4,034	1,896	4,025	9,627	15,105	21,653	55,374
	Pantoprazole	2	16	103	579	1,085	1,631	3,331
<b>2021</b>		<b>4,340</b>	<b>2,036</b>	<b>4,417</b>	<b>10,968</b>	<b>17,249</b>	<b>25,258</b>	<b>63,110</b>
	Lansoprazole	10	24	56	163	270	428	935
	Omeprazole	4,337	2,011	4,300	10,409	16,165	23,605	59,776
	Pantoprazole	2	12	107	614	1,133	1,726	3,532
<b>2022</b>		<b>4,217</b>	<b>2,253</b>	<b>4,773</b>	<b>11,287</b>	<b>17,292</b>	<b>25,076</b>	<b>63,749</b>
	Lansoprazole	2	18	43	175	266	413	895
	Omeprazole	4,216	2,230	4,659	10,729	16,254	23,482	60,549
	Pantoprazole	0	11	106	601	1,099	1,686	3,426

Please note the following regarding the figures within the table:

- Count of people aged under 30 years who were dispensed a selected publicly funded pharmaceutical between 2018 and 2022.
- Data extracted 06/04/2023.
- Data source: Te Whatu Ora/Health New Zealand, Pharmaceutical Collection.
- Dispensing dates between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2022.
- Age is reported at time of dispensing event.
- The following data includes pharmacy prescriptions (for individuals) and excludes bulk and practitioner supply orders.
- Data excludes records created for the purpose of managing claims such as brand switch fees and 'owe claims' where prescription item was not filled and excludes records where chemical formulation information was not recorded.
- Dispensings without an NHI number have been excluded.
- People may appear in multiple categories for chemical name, age-band and calendar year of dispensing. Because of this the counts should not be summed, as this will result in double-counting. Totals presented are of the distinct number of people and have removed double counting.
- Dispensing counts do not include prescription forms that were not filled (eg, patient receives a prescription form from the doctor but does not go to the pharmacy to get it filled).

- Although we have reviewed the provisional data presented here, this data could have unexpected errors that may be picked up through the rigorous data quality checks publication datasets undergo. As a result, published data may differ from the provisional data presented here.
- Published data should be considered the most accurate source and used where possible.
- The Pharmaceutical Collection only counts publicly funded, community dispensed pharmaceuticals and Pharmaceutical Cancer Treatments (PCT); It does not count non-PCT hospital dispensings, drugs not funded by PHARMAC, or prescriptions that were never dispensed. Hence, we have no visibility of the actual number of prescriptions that are written, only those that result in a dispensing.
- The Pharmaceutical Collection is a live dataset, whilst the Pharmaceutical Data Web Tool is a static extract.
- Comparing the two extracts may result in different figures.

### How to get in contact

If you have any questions, you can contact us at [hnzOIA@health.govt.nz](mailto:hnzOIA@health.govt.nz).

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Te Whatu Ora may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Wendy Lawn  
**(Acting) Manager**  
**Office of the Chief Data and Digital**