

# Tobacco Control Seminar Series 2015

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**Ministry of Health**

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# Overview

## Policy

- Plain Packaging Legislation
- Open / Internal (substantially enclosed) Areas
- Duty-free Tobacco Allowance
- Taxation
- Review of E-Cigarettes
- Others – Smoking in Cars with Children

## Operational

- Health Targets
  - Administer Innovation & Grants Fund
  - Tobacco Control Plans
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# Plain packaging

- The Smoke-free Environments (Tobacco Plain Packaging) Bill had its First Reading
  - The Health Committee reported back to Parliament
  - A few small amendments were recommended - including substituting 'Standardised' for 'Plain'
  - The Bill is awaiting its Second Reading
  - The Bill is now in Hon Peseta Sam Lotu-Iiga's name
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# Open/Internal (substantially enclosed) Areas

- High Court (Auckland) ruled that the ‘Open areas calculator’ was incorrect in law.
  - Definition of “substantially enclosed” in the internal area clause needs to be based on the ‘average person’ test.
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# Open/Internal (substantially enclosed) Areas

- Guidance has been developed
  - Based on Queensland Health's model
  - Uses an 'average' person test
  - Is a very subjective test
  - Available on Ministry of Health's website
  - SkyCity Diamond Lounge was reassessed and is now deemed to be an internal area
  - On-going work still occurring
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# Reduction to the Duty-free Tobacco Allowance

- Limits reduced to 50 cigarettes or 50 grams of loose tobacco or cigars
  - Tobacco also completely removed from the 'gifting' concession
  - Aligns with Australian limit
  - Came into effect on 1 November
  - Smooth transition to date
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# E-cigarettes

## **Legal position:**

- E-cigarettes that contain nicotine and/or make a therapeutic claim cannot be legally sold, supplied or advertised in New Zealand without approval.
- E-cigarettes (with or without nicotine) that resemble tobacco products may not be sold to people under 18 years.

## **Ministry of Health's position:**

- There is not enough evidence to be able to recommend e-cigarettes as an aid to quit smoking.
  - There are no e-cigarettes approved by Medsafe.
  - The Ministry recommends that smokers continue to use approved smoking cessation aids.
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# Smoking in cars with children present

- Ministry providing advice to Ministers on this issue

# Other work on the go:

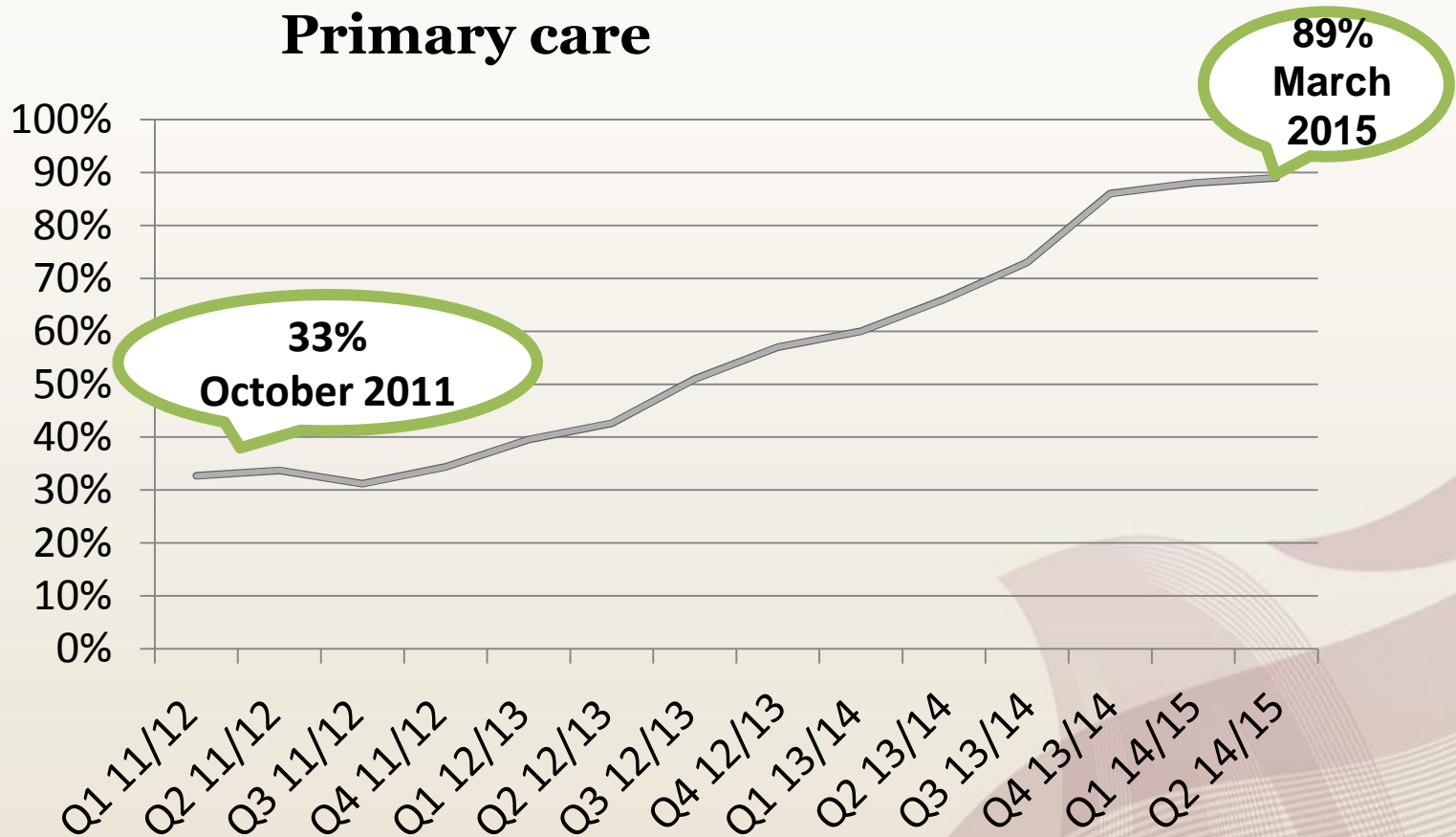
- advice on the FCTC's Protocol on Illicit Trade
  - update of the ABC smoking cessation e-learning tool
  - contribution to the Telehealth process
  - Community Grants
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# Pathway to Smokefree New Zealand 2025 Innovation Fund

- Two funding rounds since the establishment of the fund in 2012
  - 22 Projects have receiving funding
  - Some promising results
  - Options for extensions and continued funding for projects showing successful outcomes
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# HEALTH TARGETS - 86 percent of New Zealand smokers received brief advice and/or cessation support in 2013/14

## Primary care

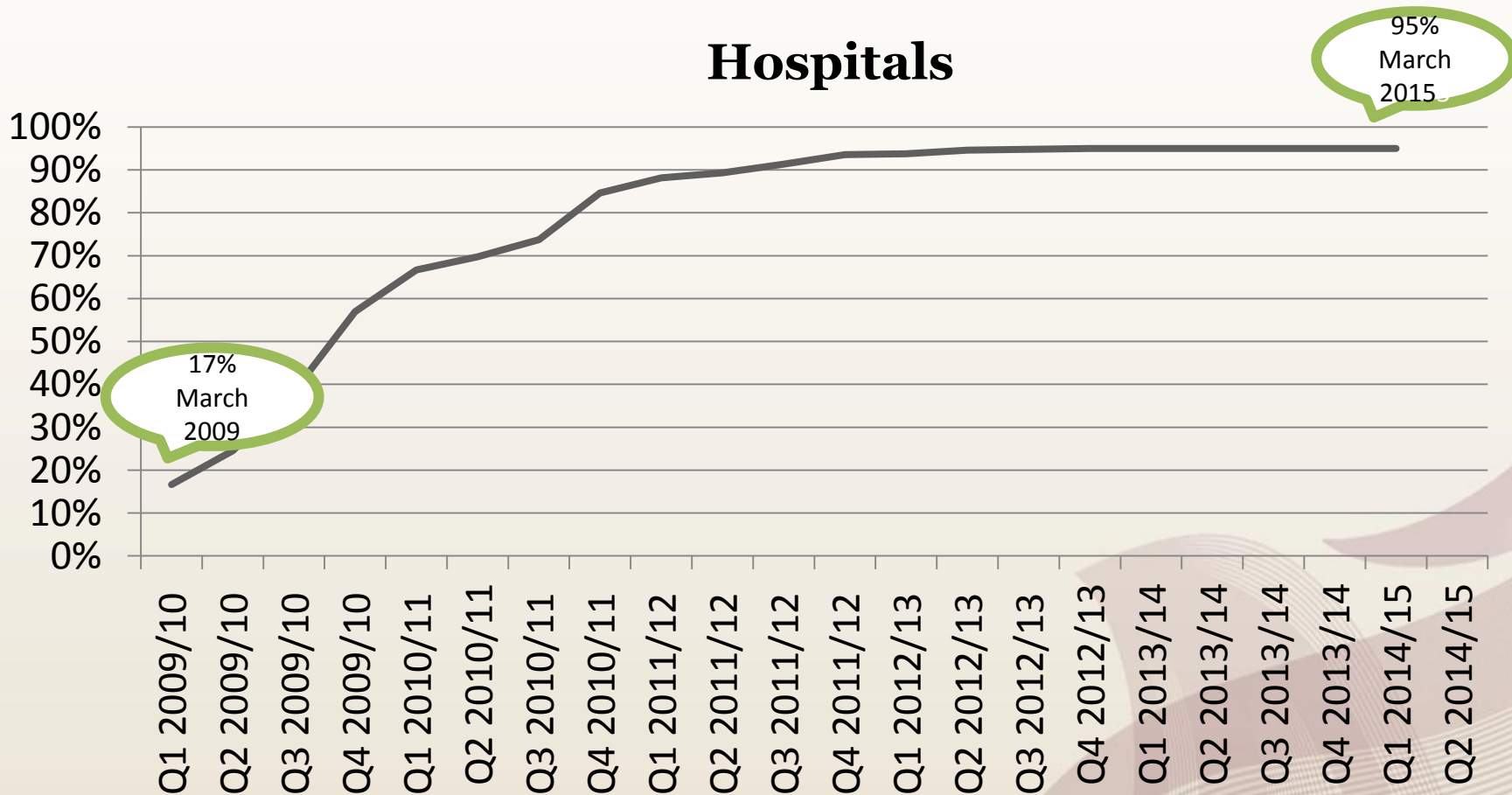


Note: the primary care component of the *Better help for smokers to quit* health target was only introduced in 2011/12.



# HEALTH TARGETS - Percentage of smokers given advice and support to quit in hospitals

## Hospitals



# DHB Tobacco Control Plans

- Due by 31 March (first draft)
- Three year plan reviewed annually