

Tobacco Control Seminar Series 2014

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Ministry of Health

Overview

- The role of the Ministry
 - Update on
 - Policy Work
 - Service Provision
 - Innovation Fund
 - Health Targets
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The Ministry's role

Government's role

- Manifesto of the leading political party
 - Government priorities – coalition parties
 - Minister of Health's priorities
 - Tobacco Control portfolio
 - Tobacco Control work programme and funding are set by the Government of the day
 - Policy and regulatory changes are approved by Cabinet
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Where the Ministry fits

- The Ministry is a public service, serving the Government of the day
 - The Ministry provides free and frank advice to the Minister of Health and the Associate Ministers of Health
 - Ministers may agree or not agree with the Ministry's advice and hold the ultimate decision making power
 - Changing policy and regulations is a democratic process in New Zealand
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The Ministry's work programme

Overview

Policy

- Plain Packaging Legislation
- Open / Internal (substantially enclosed) Areas
- Duty-free Tobacco Allowance
- Review of E-Cigarettes

Operational

- Health Targets
 - Administer Innovation & Grants Fund
 - Review of tobacco control services
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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-liga's name as the new Associate Minister of Health (tobacco)
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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

- New 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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New Zealand guidelines for helping people quit smoking

- Based on a recent review of best practice interventions for smoking cessation.
 - Provides specific information for health professionals working in different areas of tobacco control.
 - Background document is available online for those who require further information.
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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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Review of tobacco control services

- SHORE/Whariki research centre undertook the review.
 - To inform medium to long term service planning with a view to achieving the Smokefree 2025 goal.
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Other work on the go:

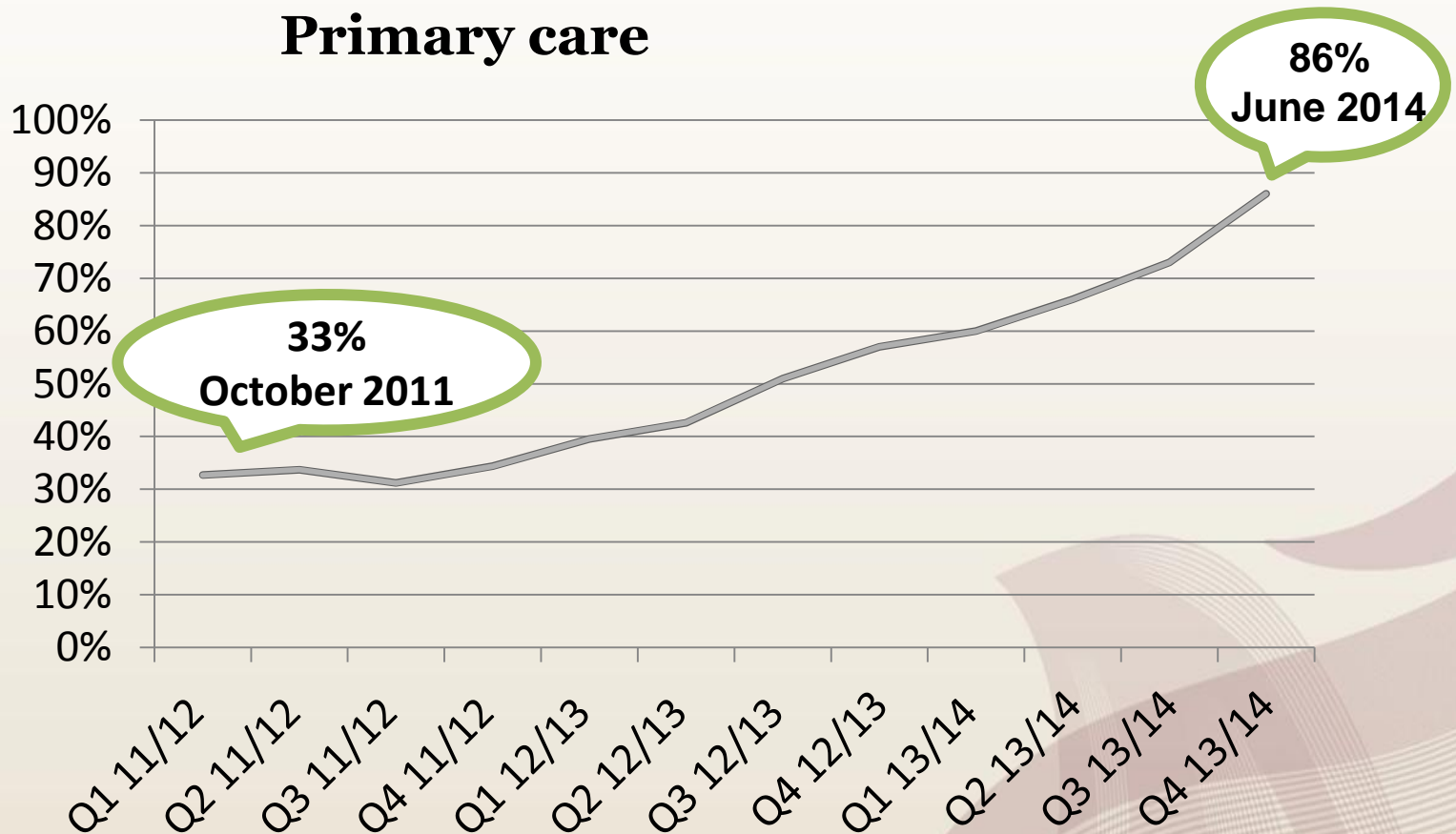
- advice on the FCTC's Protocol on Illicit Trade
 - update of the ABC smoking cessation e-learning tool
 - contribution to the Telehealth process
 - Community Grants
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Pathway to Smokefree New Zealand 2025 Innovation Fund

- Two funding rounds since the establishment of the fund in 2012
 - 22 Projects are currently 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

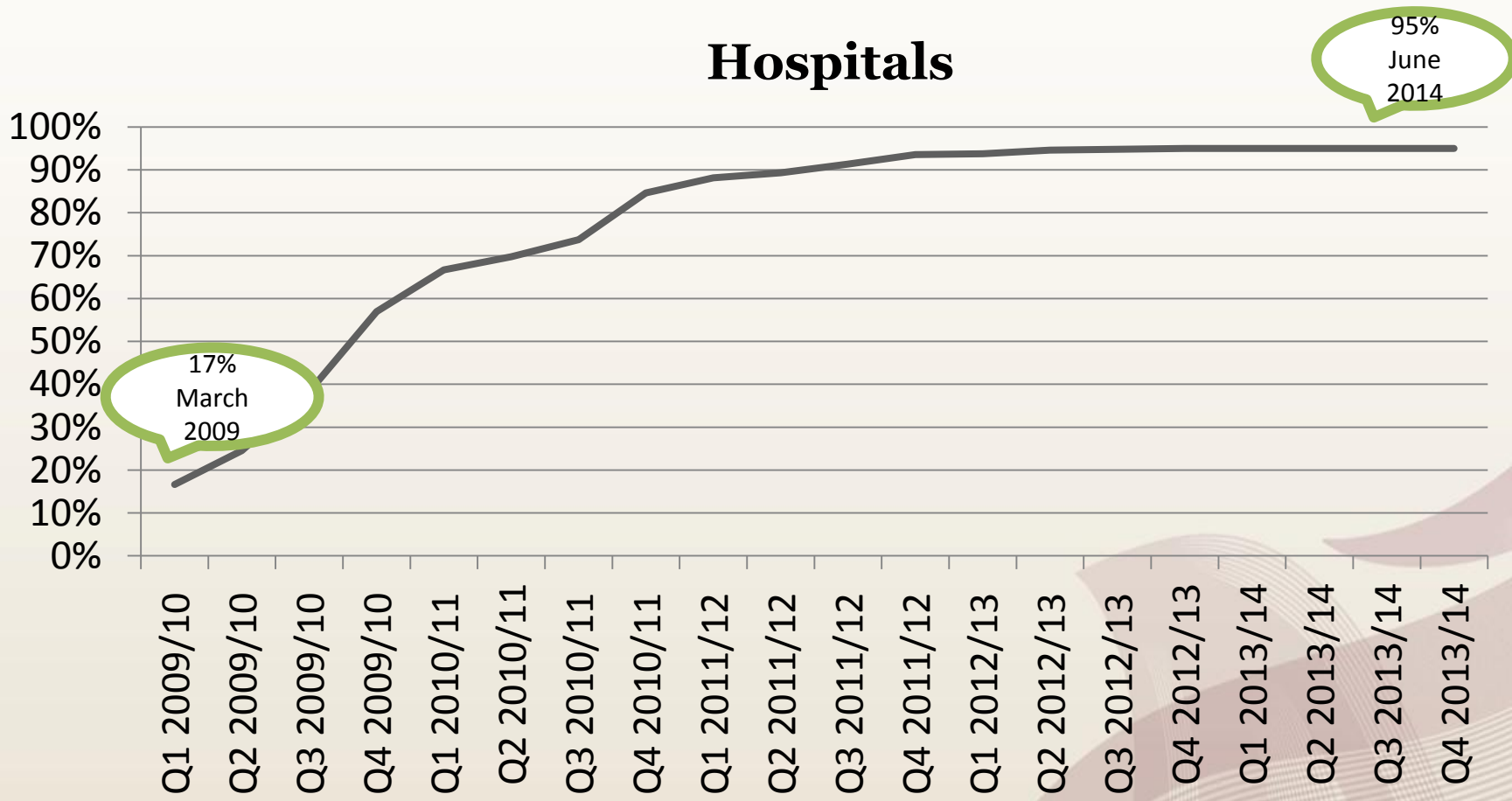
Primary care



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



Health Target Future

- Evolutionary approach to health targets
- Listening to frontline practitioners' feedback
- Moving towards business-as-usual model
- Technical changes to current targets
- Possible new targets