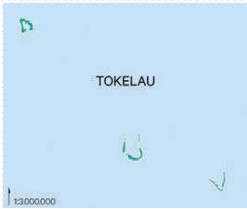


AP



General data

POPULATION, 2023  
N/A

SURFACE, KM², 2022  
N/A

PHYSICIANS / 1,000 INH, 2022  
N/A

Socioeconomic data

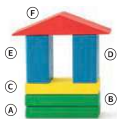
COUNTRY INCOME LEVEL, 2022  
N/A

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX RANKING, 2021  
N/A

GDP PER CAPITA (US\$), 2023  
N/A

HEALTH EXPENDITURE (% GDP), 2021  
N/A

UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE, 2021  
N/A



WHO FRAMEWORK FOR PALLIATIVE CARE DEVELOPMENT

- Ⓐ EMPOWERMENT OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES
- Ⓑ POLICIES
- Ⓒ RESEARCH
- Ⓓ USE OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES
- Ⓔ EDUCATION AND TRAINING
- Ⓕ PROVISION OF PC



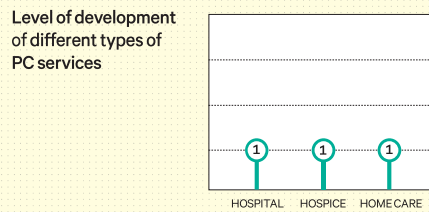
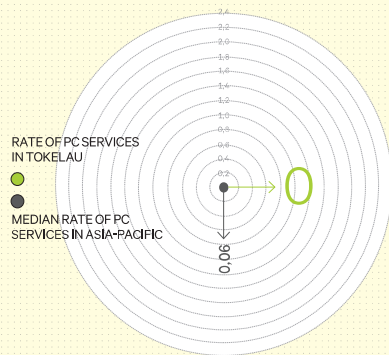
# Tokelau

F Provision of PC (Specialized Services)

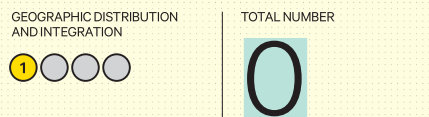
Total number of Specialized PC services **0**

Rate of PC services per 100,000 inhabitants **0**

Tokelau in the context of Asia-Pacific regions



Pediatric PC Services



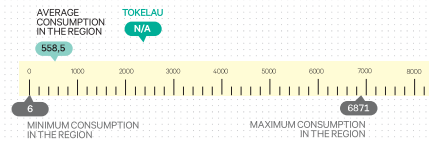
AP

# Tokelau

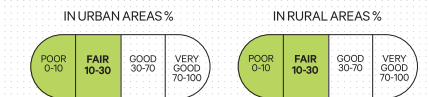
D Use of essential medicines

Opioids consumption (excluding methadone) **N/A**

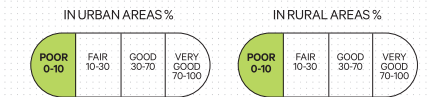
Tokelau in the context of Asia-Pacific regions



Overall availability of essential medicines for pain and PC at the primary level



General availability of immediate-release oral morphine at the primary level



C Research

PC-related research articles: **1**

Existence of PC congresses or scientific meetings: **1**

Data gathered through a literature review.

Data collected: June-September 2024.

Report sponsored by National Association: N/A

Edited by Atlantes Research Team University of Navarra (Spain)

E Education & Training

Medical schools with mandatory PC teaching **0/0**

Nursing schools with mandatory PC teaching **0/0**

Recognition of PC specialty **1**

B Policies

National PC plan or strategy **1**

Responsible authority for PC in the Ministry of Health **1**

Inclusion of PC in the basic health package at the primary care level **1**





A Empowerment of people and communities

Groups promoting the rights of PC patients **1**

Advanced care planning-related policies **1**

# AP Tokelau





## People & Communities

<p><b>Ind1</b></p> <p>Existence of groups dedicated to promoting the rights of patients in need of PC, their caregivers, and disease survivors.</p>	<p></p> <p>Only isolated activity can be detected.</p>	<p>Currently, there are no dedicated groups in Tokelau specifically focused on promoting the rights of patients in need of palliative care, their caregivers, or disease survivors. While there is a strong sense of community and familial support within Tokelauan society, formal advocacy groups dedicated to palliative care have not been established.</p>
<p><b>Ind2</b></p> <p>Is there a national policy or guideline on advance directives or advance care planning?</p>	<p></p> <p>There is no national policy or guideline on advance care planning.</p>	<p>Currently, Tokelau does not have a national policy or guideline specifically addressing advance directives or advance care planning. The available legislation, as compiled in the "Laws of Tokelau 2016," does not include provisions related to these matters. Additionally, there is no evidence available of formalized frameworks or guidelines concerning advance care planning within the country's healthcare system.</p>
<p><b>Ind3</b></p> <p>3.1. There is a current national PC plan, programme, policy, or strategy.</p> <p>3.2. The national palliative care plan (or programme or strategy or legislation) is a standalone.</p>	<p></p> <p>Not known or does not exist.</p> <p></p> <p>Not known or does not exist neither standalone nor is included in another national plan.</p>	<p>The Tokelau Health Strategic Plan 2016–2020 outlines goals for improving healthcare services but does not specifically address palliative care. Additionally, the Kōiga Tokelau Wellbeing National Strategic Plan 2022–2026 focuses on overall community wellbeing without detailing palliative care initiatives.</p>

## Policies

# AP Tokelau

## Policies

<p>3.3. There are indicators in the national plan to monitor and evaluate progress, with measurable targets.</p>	<p></p> <p>Not known or does not exist.</p>	
<p><b>Ind4</b></p> <p>PC services are included in the list of priority services for Universal Health Coverage at the primary care level in the national health system.</p>	<p></p> <p>Not at all.</p>	<p>The Tokelau Health Strategic Plan 2016–2020 focuses on enhancing primary care services and public health programs but does not specifically address palliative care. Additionally, evaluations of Tokelau's health sector have highlighted challenges such as isolation, limited financial resources, and human resource development, which impact the delivery of comprehensive health services, including palliative care.</p>
<p><b>Ind5</b></p> <p>5.1. Is there a national authority for palliative care within the government or the Ministry of Health?</p> <p>5.2. The national authority has concrete functions, budget and staff.</p>	<p></p> <p>There is no authority defined.</p> <p></p> <p>Does not have concrete functions or resources (budget, staff, etc.)</p>	<p>Tokelau's Department of Health oversees healthcare services across its three atolls, each equipped with a hospital providing primary care. The Director of Health leads the department, supported by staff both on Tokelau and in Apia, Samoa. The Strategic Plan (2016–2020) emphasizes improving clinical services, governance, public health, and infrastructure. However, there is no specific mention of a national authority dedicated solely to palliative care within the government or the Ministry of Health.</p>

# AP Tokelau

## Research

### Ind6

Existence of congresses or scientific meetings at the national level specifically related to PC.



There are no national congresses or scientific meetings related to palliative care.

Currently, there are no national-level congresses or scientific meetings reported specifically dedicated to palliative care. However, the New Zealand National Child Cancer Network (NCCN) established a Pacific Working Group in 2011 to support cancer care, including palliative care, in Pacific countries where treatment options are limited. Through this initiative, twinning relationships were developed between Starship Hospital in New Zealand and Tokelau, along with other Pacific nations. Although funding for the program has ended, teleconferences with healthcare professionals in Tokelau and other countries continue to provide guidance on patient care and treatment protocols.

### Ind7

Estimation of the level of peer-reviewed articles focusing on PC research published in any language in the past 5 years with at least one author from the country.



Indicates a minimal or non-existent number of articles published on the subject in that country.

### Ind8

Reported annual opioid consumption –excluding methadone– in S-DDD per million inhabitants per day.

No data reported.

## Medicines

# AP Tokelau

## Medicines

### Ind9

9.1. Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in urban areas that have pain and palliative care medications as defined in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines.



Fair: Between 10% to 30%.

9.2. Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in rural areas that have pain and palliative care medications as defined in the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines.



Fair: Between 10% to 30%.

Tokelau's healthcare system provides free essential medicines, but its limited infrastructure, small population, and remote location impact the availability of specialized medications. Medicine management faces challenges such as inconsistent supply, oversupply of non-essential drugs, and the absence of a pharmacist or pharmacy technician. Medication ordering is typically handled by nursing staff without systematic consultation with medical officers. Efforts to improve continuity of care include plans for a community nurse role, but medicine shortages and expiry remain ongoing issues. These limitations suggest that access to essential pain and palliative care medications at the primary care level is likely inconsistent.

### Ind10

10.1. Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in urban areas that have immediate-release oral morphine (liquid or tablet).



Poor: Between 0% to 10%.

10.2. Percentage of health facilities at the primary care level in rural areas that have immediate-release oral morphine (liquid or tablet).



Poor: Between 0% to 10%.

In Tokelau, healthcare services are provided through small hospitals on each atoll, but specialized services are not available locally. Patients needing advanced care are often referred abroad to Samoa or New Zealand through the Tokelau Patient Referral Scheme (TPRS). While essential medicines are provided free to citizens, challenges such as medicine shortages, lack of specialized staff, and logistical constraints due to the remote location impact the availability of specific drugs like immediate-release oral morphine. There is no formalized palliative care system, and the consistent availability of such medications at primary healthcare facilities is uncertain.

AP Tokelau

Education & Training

Ind11

11.1. The proportion of medical schools with **COMPULSORY** teaching in PC (with or without other optional teaching) over the total number of medical schools in the country

0/0



The University of the South Pacific (USP) has a campus in Tokelau, but it does not provide medical degree programs. Those from Tokelau seeking medical education typically study abroad, often in countries like New Zealand. Similarly, Tokelau does not have its own nursing schools or formal nursing education programs. Aspiring nurses usually undergo training overseas, primarily in neighboring countries such as Samoa or Fiji.

11.2. The proportion of medical schools with **OPTIONAL** teaching in PC...

0/0

11.3. The proportion of nursing schools with **COMPULSORY** teaching in PC (with or without other optional teaching) over the total number of nursing schools in the country.

0/0

11.4. The proportion of nursing schools with **OPTIONAL** teaching in PC...

0/0

Ind12

12. Existence of an official specialisation process in palliative medicine for physicians, recognised by the competent authority in the country.



There is no process on specialization for palliative care physicians.

The University of the South Pacific (USP) operates a campus in Tokelau. However, this campus does not offer medical degree programs. Individuals from Tokelau who wish to pursue medical education often do it in countries like New Zealand.

AP Tokelau

Provision of PC / Services

Ind13

13.1. There is a system of specialized PC services or teams in the country that has a **GEOGRAPHIC** reach and is delivered through different service delivery platforms.



No or minimal provision of palliative care specialized services or teams exist in the country.

13.2. Are available in **HOSPITALS** (public or private), such as hospital PC teams (consultation teams), and PC units (with beds), to name a few examples.



Not at all.

13.3. Free-standing **HOSPICES** (including hospices with inpatient beds).



Not at all.

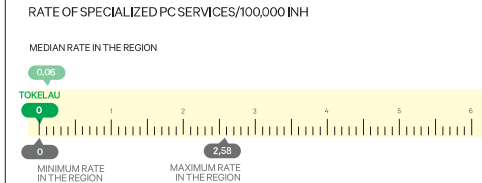
13.4. **HOME CARE** teams (specialized in PC) are available in the community (or at the primary Healthcare level), as independent services or linked with hospitals or hospices.



Not at all.

13.5. Please enter the total number of specialized PC services or teams in the country.

Tokelau does not have a formalized system of specialized palliative care services or teams. Healthcare is provided through 12-bed hospitals on each atoll, staffed by medical officers and nurses. Due to its small population and limited infrastructure, specialized services are unavailable locally, and patients requiring advanced care are referred abroad, primarily to Samoa or New Zealand, via the Tokelau Patient Referral Scheme (TPRS). The New Zealand National Child Cancer Network (NCCN) has supported cancer and palliative care through initiatives like teleconferences, treatment protocols, and supportive care guidelines. Travel challenges, such as the lack of an airport or port, further hinder access to care. While residents are eligible for free cancer treatment in New Zealand, associated travel and accommodation costs are often a burden Tokelau currently lacks a formalized palliative care system integrated into its healthcare services.



Ind14

14.1. There is a system of specialized PC services or teams for **children** in the country that has **geographic** reach and is delivered through different service delivery platforms.



No or minimal provision of palliative care specialized services or teams for children exists in country.

14.2. Please enter the total number of pediatric specialized PC services or teams in the country



PPC TEAMS