

Integrated Care – An Update

Welcome to the first edition of our new update on activities and decisions around the Integration of Home, Community, Primary and Specialist Services for the Capital & Coast DHB district.

The story so far:

We publicly consulted in June on how the DHB should best try and integrate care, mainly for older people and those with chronic disease. Our proposal for consultation suggested:

- A district wide Care Coordination Centre
- Care Manager roles
- Specialist services eg for older people
- Developing a single assessment process
- Developing more flexible home & community services

The consultation process confirmed widespread support for the proposal. Following consultation, in October this year, the Capital & Coast District Health Board approved the implementation of the proposal through its initial two stages. Essentially these stages will see the system described in detail and some parts of it trialled.

Progress to date:

Several projects are now underway to develop the proposal.

- Specialist Older Persons Service – the specification is almost completed and the project group is starting to look at how the service will be configured
- Care Coordination Centre – the Registration of Interest for the Care Coordination Centre has been released
- Care Managers – several ‘pilot’ Care Managers have been identified to start the role early in 2005
- Single Assessment process – the ‘pilot’ of the assessment tool (Interrai) has been agreed and signed up between the other District Health Boards who want to participate and the supplier of the system

Want to find out more?:

For staff who will be directly affected by this we have started our rounds of ‘drop in’ sessions, so that people can come and ask questions. The next round will be after Xmas. You can get more information on the C&C DHB web site at <http://www.ccdhb.org.nz/primary.htm> or, you can contact Andrew Downes on 04 803 1115. Our next newsletter will be after Xmas, so until then please accept our early Xmas greetings!

