

C&C DHB Partner Update

May 2011

Capital & Coast DHB will regularly be providing information packs to stay in touch with our colleagues in primary health and to keep everyone up to date with what's going on.

Please help us by distributing this to other Primary Health Care Providers who you think might find this information useful.

This edition and previous editions are available to view on healthpoint.co.nz under the Medical Professional section – News.

Headlines in this edition:

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Attachments to this newsletter are marked as **bold and underlined**

Mass Casualty Incidents - Guidelines for Primary Care

CCDHB Guidelines on Management of Mass Casualty Incidents for Primary Care and Emergency Planning for General Practice including key local contacts and locations of resources can be found on CCDHB Healthpoint site under Primary Care/Protocols and Guidelines

<http://www.healthpoint.co.nz/downloadinfo,119325,mpTreatmentGuidelinesList,f5jjjh5ovzxxlnvsxco0.do>

In light of the recent Christchurch Earthquake I am sure that many of you are reviewing your plans for managing Mass Casualty Incidents and Planning for Emergencies for your own practice. In 2007 CCDHB went through a Mass Casualty Planning Exercise and a plan was set up which is still relevant for today.

This includes guidelines on how to manage the practice in the event of an emergency, the overall response of Civil Defence and the Health Sector in the Wellington Region, the role and responsibilities of General Practice in this plan, triage and treatment guidelines and plans for communications.

There is also a list of maps showing the location of key surgeries and civil defence sites across the region and the location and contents of Mass Casualty Supplies. There are also estimates of the risk of events occurring and casualty numbers.

For further information on Planning for Emergencies and Mass Casualty Incidents please contact your PHO Emergency Coordinator and/or the CCDHB Emergency team. Greg Phillips, Gregory.Phillips@ccdhb.org.nz

International Nurses Day Awards

The 2011 International Nurses Day awards for nurses working in primary health care have been announced. The recipients are:

1. Allie Crombie, Practice Nurse, Plimmer Surgery
2. Linda Beckett, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Sexual Assault Assessment & Treatment Services Coordinator, Compass Health
3. Robin Dundas, Head Nurse, Student Health Service, Victoria University of Wellington
4. Rosa Isaako-Tolosa, Primary Health Care Nurse, Porirua Union Health Service
5. Susan Harvey, Senior Practice Nurse, Newtown Medical Centre.

These awards will be presented at the Capital & Coast celebration on May 12th at Kenepuru Hospital, Education Centre. All nurses are invited to come and celebrate International Nurses Day, 4 - 6pm. The guest speakers are Kathy Holloway, Assistant Dean at Whitireia Community Polytechnic and

Natalie Scott, CNS Community Health and recipient of 2010 Ellen Dougherty award. See the flyer that accompanies this newsletter.

Please see attachment: **IND Invitation**

Sleep Clinic Referral Process for Primary Care

The Sleep Clinic has become inundated with referrals due to the increasing recognition by GPs and patients of the importance and long-term sequelae of Obstructive Sleep Apnoea and the excellent treatment now available for this condition.

In order to ensure that patients with this condition are seen appropriately and in a timely fashion we require adequate information to prioritise the referral appropriately and with more rigour than we have done in the past.

Information required to allow us to set a priority is brought together in the **Sleep Breathing referral form** that has been in existence for several years. **A copy is attached.** This is also available electronically on the Healthpoint website under CCDHB Respiratory and in a Medtech Outbox format for **download on the Healthpoint Primary Care site** under Medtech Outbox Referral Forms.

We have accepted referrals done in other ways in the past as long as they contain most of the information needed, but they rarely do. Common omissions are occupation, weight & height, and degree of somnolence.

We are not going to be able to continue this liberal practice and will require all referrals to be in the format set out. If a referral is received in another format, the Booking Centre will politely send the referrer one of the forms.

The intention is not to appear obstructive or create extra work but to ensure adequacy of information so that your patient can be seen sooner or not waste their time if a sleep clinic referral is not appropriate for their needs.

Please see attachment: **Referral sleep breathing form**

Electronic Referrals Project

We recently informed PHO managers that C&C DHB is implementing an electronic referral project with Healthlink. This means a standard referral form and electronic gateway for all referrals that are sent to Secondary Care (excluding Allied Health, Care Coordination Centre and Te Haika at this time).

We will initially roll out a generic referral form that can be populated from Medtech in the first instance, however there is interest in developing customised referrals and referral guidelines in the future. If you would like further information please talk to the PHO manager or alternatively contact us.

Electronic Copies of all Radiology Reports performed at CCDHB to be sent to GP Practices.

In the coming months CCDHB will be sending an **electronic copy of all reports** performed by the CCDHB Radiology Department to the patients GP practice. These text reports will include plain x-ray films, ultrasound, and CT and MRI reports produced by the Radiology Department. This reporting is expected to commence around July.

We will be sending you these reports in a similar way to the current electronic discharge summaries which appear as plain text in your electronic "inbox". We will be using the same hospital database of identified GP or GP practice to send the copies to you.

These reports will be sent when **finally authorised** by the radiologist and will be clearly identified as **copies**. If however you order an investigation through CCDHB radiology this will not be marked as a copy.

At this time we will only be sending copies of reports and not electronic images due to the large file size and bandwidth required to do this.

This initiative is intended to improve communication and sharing of information between CCDHB and the patients GP as well as allowing all parties to better communicate with the patient. Having full information on the investigations performed on your patient will allow GPs and GP practices to provide better ongoing care for their patients as many of you have called for.

Laboratory Result sharing

We are currently exploring with the C&C DHB ICT department and suppliers, the ability to make laboratory results available in Primary and Secondary Care. This work should improve the timeliness of information for all clinicians, but it is hoped that with this there might also be some benefits in reducing demand. We are about to set up a group to determine which lab results will come to Primary Care from the hospital. A draft will be circulated via PHOs when this is available.

Orthopaedics Clinical Pathways Collaborative

We are currently looking for participants for the Orthopaedics Clinical Pathway Collaborative. The first area for development is elective Total Hip and Knee Replacements. The first meeting is likely to occur in the second or third week of May.

Equipment Sterilisation and Infection Control in Community Practices

CCDHB Infection Prevention and Control & Sterile Supply Departments
present:

“Equipment Sterilisation and Infection Control in Community Practices”

- When:** Wednesday 15th June 9- 4.30
- Where:** Horne Lecture Theatre, Level 12, Ward Support Block, Wellington Hospital.
- Details:** This is a free seminar- gold coin donation for tea and coffee please.
Bring or buy your own lunch.
Participants will audit their own practice against AS/NZS 4815: 2006 Office-based Reprocessing Standard, and learn about processes of appropriate pre-cleaning, packaging, loading, testing and storing of sterile equipment. Participants will also learn about appropriate hand hygiene, use of personal protective equipment and other issues of community infection control.
- Booking:** **emails preferred:** Suliana.VanOoyen@ccdhb.org.nz
Include name, designation and place of work. Use “Equipment Sterilisation” in subject line. Confirmation will follow by email.
- Contact:** For more information - carolyn.clissold@ccdhb.org.nz,
Phone 918-6515; 027 292 8031
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Clinical Pathways Collaborative Review and Operating Principles & Process

The Clinical Pathways Collaborative has been reviewed by the Health Services Research Centre at Victoria University. This review gave us the opportunity to develop Operating Principles and process for the Clinical Pathways Collaborative. These are now available on www.hiirc.org.nz and www.healthpoint.co.nz under CCDHB /Clinical Pathways Collaborative.

National reserve antivirals and the 2011 influenza season - clarification

Dear colleagues

Over the last few weeks we have received several queries from pharmacies and primary practices about the provision of national reserve antivirals for the 2011 influenza season. As you will know, provision of national reserve antivirals ceased on December 31 last year, but this message doesn't seem to have reached everybody in the primary and pharmacy sectors.

To ensure all involved understand the current situation, please forward the following message to all pharmacies and primary practices in your district, and to anybody else who may have an interest in this area.

The provision of national reserve antivirals (Tamiflu and Relenza) for use in treating pandemic influenza (A) H1N1 2009 ceased on December 31 2010.

At present there are no plans to make national reserve antivirals generally available for the 2011 winter influenza season.

The sole exception is the Canterbury District Health Board (CDHB) district, where national reserve antivirals have been made available to the DHB for use in treating influenza as clinically appropriate. This exception to the general policy is made to assist with Canterbury's post-earthquake recovery.

The antiviral policy will remain under continuous review during the influenza season. For all of New Zealand outside the CDHB district, access to antivirals is therefore as it was before the H1N1 pandemic. Medical practitioners may prescribe antivirals, but patients will need to pay the full price of the unsubsidised medicine. Pharmacists may sell Tamiflu (oseltamivir) over the counter to people with symptoms of influenza-like illnesses who meet appropriate criteria.

HealthPoint

Healthpoint.co.nz has the latest DHB referral and clinical guidelines, protocols and contacts. The site has been updated with a new search functionality and improved links to relevant information for health professionals.

The First Specialist Assessment waiting times on all services are now being updated monthly.

We encourage all healthcare professionals to access this site to get the latest information from C&C DHB on:

- Referral criteria and priority
- Management protocols for common conditions
- New patient waiting times – updated quarterly
- Monthly newsletters and DHB update
- Specialist Referral Forms in Medtech 32 Outbox format for download

You must register and sign in on www.healthpoint.co.nz to access the referral and clinical information about C&C DHB services.

For GPs and medical professionals, Optometrists registered with the New Zealand Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board and Midwives registered with the Midwifery Council of New Zealand please register by clicking on the register at the top of the home page.

You can also register your organisation including GP practices and PHOs by clicking on the register at the top of the home page.

For all other health professionals we would encourage your practice or PHO to obtain a login from info@healthpoint.co.nz.

Newsletter Feedback

We welcome your feedback regarding content and distribution of this newsletter. We would love to hear from you if you have any suggestions regarding it. **If you have any feedback, suggestions or questions please do not hesitate to contact us.**

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For C&C DHB information for the general public about Primary Care, visit:
http://www.ccdhb.org.nz/planning/Primary_Care/Primary_Care.htm
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