

Provider Network Update

October 8 2021

We remain at Alert Level 2. While we still have no cases in our region, COVID-19 cases in the north, the changing restrictions, alert levels, and shifting boundaries can be unsettling for people all over the country. We will continue to bring you information, and also acknowledge the great work you are all doing to keep our communities safe.

This update covers:

- COVID-19 testing and vaccination update
- RPH Medical Officer of Health on Breakfast TV – Life of a contact tracer
- Advance Care Planning Workshops – plus attachments
- Macawa ni vosa vakaviti – Fijian language week
- Participants sought for ACL rehab study
- Ngā Tohu Angitu Celebrating Success Awards – list of nominations
- Wellbeing for our tamariki

Any questions regarding this communication may be directed to 2DHBCommissioning@ccdhb.org.nz

All emails to this email address will be logged and responded to by an appropriate team member.

COVID-19 TESTING AND VACCINATION UPDATE

Vaccination continues to be the best tool we have to protect ourselves, our whanau, and the people we serve.

The Ministry has started producing detailed maps of vaccination rates which will be updated weekly. You can see them here: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-data-and-statistics/covid-19-vaccine-data/covid-19-vaccination-uptake-rates-within-maori-communities-across-nz>

Spinoff has also created interactive maps of vaccination data by suburb here:

<https://thespinoff.co.nz/society/07-10-2021/the-vaccination-rate-for-every-suburb-in-new-zealand-on-an-interactive-map/>

We have passed more milestones this week, with Wellington Central passing the 90 per cent mark for at least their first dose, and Kapiti Coast passing 50 per cent fully vaccinated. At least 84 per cent of people in the greater Wellington region have received at least their first dose.

With the large majority of people over 12 years old already having received at least their first dose, the focus now turns to reaching and engaging with people who are still unvaccinated and how we can help them be comfortable and confident coming forward.

The latest Ministry of Health research and feedback from our providers shows that many people who are hesitating have questions specifically about the COVID-19 vaccine and are looking for emotional reassurance rather than more data. This is especially emerging amongst Māori and Pacific young people.

To meet this challenge, our overall communications approach has now shifted to ensuring we are providing a range of safe and friendly environments where people can ask questions and seek information without having to make an appointment or commit to getting vaccinated.

New promotional materials will be available and all PHOs and providers are looking at a variety of different options including pop-up information booths and sessions, long-form phone calling, door-knocking, mobile units and other events to give people options.

MĀORI VACCINATION UPDATE

Big changes are happening in the Māori COVID-19 Vaccination programme as it moves from dealing with large numbers of people flowing through clinics. Those numbers are falling off and outreach has become the focus of activity.

The hard yards phase of the programme has begun. We are engaging with the hard-to-persuade, and finding and engaging with the hard-to-find. All providers intently follow the numbers of Māori who remain unvaccinated found in data by suburb. It is a phase of innovation where ideas are tried and effectiveness checked against what movement in the suburb numbers show.

Overall the Wellington Region is leading all regions in the rate of Māori vaccination, but the Maori vaccination team is focused elsewhere. The only number that matters to them is how many remain unvaccinated – when an outbreak arrives in our cities and suburbs those are the people who will be at greatest risk. After that they are interested in the level of Māori who have had a Second Dose because that is the true measure of success. The third measure of importance is the number of Māori that have had a First Dose because that indicates what the Second Dose numbers will look like in weeks to come.

Look out for the arrival of vaccination buses, for soon-to-be-announced support for the vaccination programme with big council initiatives. Be aware of the support coming in from organisations such as the Malaghan Institute, Metlink, and Chambers of Commerce. Look out for innovative programmes linking with Kapa Haka groups and rugby league clubs. It's all on.

GAPS BETWEEN DOSES

In response to the ongoing Delta outbreak the Ministry of Health is now advising a shorter gap between doses of the Pfizer vaccine than the current standard of six weeks. Reducing the gap between doses to three weeks or over means more people can be fully vaccinated sooner, increasing our community immunity.

In August the standard gap between first and second doses of the Pfizer vaccine was extended from three weeks to six weeks to allow a larger number of people to get their first dose faster.

At the time it was said that a shorter time between the two doses was recommended in some cases. This included people at higher risk of contracting COVID-19 such as border workers. Since that time the Delta outbreak has increased the risk of contracting COVID-19 for everyone in New Zealand, no matter where in the country you are.

Because of this increased risk the Ministry is now advising all New Zealanders to consider a shorter gap of three weeks or over between their two doses, instead of the standard six weeks.

The two doses of the Pfizer vaccine must be given at least three weeks apart.

VACCINATION CERTIFICATES AND MY COVID RECORD

The Ministry of Health's My Covid Record website is launching soon and will allow you to view your COVID-19 vaccination certificate. From the end of November everyone will be able to access a scannable QR code as proof of vaccination and COVID-19 test results (if applicable). You'll be able to print or save the QR codes on your smartphone in your Apple or Google Wallet.

This will help reduce the risk of the virus spreading at large gatherings and events over the summer and into next year. Those who cannot access digital devices will have an assisted phone line support option.

There will be separate vaccine certificates for domestic use and when travelling internationally.

[COVID-19: Requesting proof of vaccination](#)

The next Sky Stadium drive-through event will run from 15-18 October - to cover 2nd dose appointments.

Full information around vaccination sites can be found here:

Wellington: <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/covid-19-vaccination/wellington/>

Hutt Valley: <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/covid-19-vaccination/hutt/>

Full information around testing sites is available here.

Wellington: <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/covid-19/wellington/>

Hutt Valley: <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/covid-19/hutt/>

LIFE OF A CONTACT TRACER

Shout out to RPH for this excellent and informative item on TVNZ Breakfast this week. RPH's Medical Officer of Health Annette Nesdale explained to host John Campbell the complex and difficult process of tracking where COVID-19 cases have been.



Memories aren't as reliable as we think we are, and people will have been to more places than they remember. Using the tracing app makes everyone's life easier and safer.

Annette Nesdale describes the work as "like a detective story that can involve tracers using google maps to find a particular shop painted in a particular colour where someone can't quite remember what it was called or exactly where it was."

People's lives are complicated, and we are walking alongside people at a very difficult time for them, when their futures are uncertain and scary.

John Campbell said it well when he said "I'm inspired by you" and the studio applauded.

You can view it here: <https://fb.watch/8sJFaSc-Xd/>

ADVANCE CARE PLANNING WORKSHOPS

Advance Care Planning is the process of talking about and documenting people's wishes for their future health care. People with advance care plans and advance directives have more control over their future health care, they have fewer un-needed hospital admissions, and they and their whānau feel greater certainty as they face their future.

Attached is the Advance Care Planning workshop schedule for the Capital & Coast, Hutt Valley and Wairarapa DHB regions for 2021 and 2022. Workshops are held monthly at a different venue around the 3DHB region.

In these workshops we will look at strategies for having advance care conversations, documenting patient wishes, and exploring the legal basis for advance care plans and advance directives. Clinical and social services staff and volunteers from the DHB, medical centres, aged residential care, NGOs and the wider community are warmly invited to attend.

These workshops are nationally recognised and participants will receive a certificate for their continuing professional development portfolio.

Course pre-requisite: The four ACP eLearning modules should be completed before attending the workshop. These take about 90 minutes and certificates will be provided on completion.

DHB staff can access these through ConnectMe (CCDHB) or Ko Awatea LEARN (HVDHB & WaiDHB DHB staff, primary health carers, and NGO staff). All others can access these at <https://acp.elearning.ac.nz>

Please share these opportunities with your teams and networks.

(NB. Workshops can currently operate at Levels 1 and 2 but not at Level 3 or 4)

MACAWA NI VOSA VAKAVITI – FIJIAN LANGUAGE WEEK

While celebrations could not take place on the same scale as previous years due to COVID-19 alert level 3 restrictions in parts of the country, a variety of events took place, with church services, fundraising to support Fiji through COVID-19, a Fijian vaccination event, and the launch of a Fijian-language children's book, Voqa ni Veisemati.

RESOURCES

- Download and print [Fijian language cards](#), featuring a pronunciation guide, the alphabet, everyday phrases, a short prayer and hymn.
- Find out more about Fijian language week, including details of events, on the [Ministry of Pacific Peoples website](#).
- Fijian COVID-19 vaccination resources [can be found here](#).

PARTICIPANTS SOUGHT FOR STUDY: ACL REHAB IN WOMEN

A study is being conducted to understand how the menstrual cycle effects Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) injuries. We are looking for females in Wellington, Tauranga, Auckland and Queenstown who are:

- Over the age of 16
- Undergoing ACL reconstruction
- Not taking the oral contraceptive pill (no contraceptive is ok, Mirena is ok, Jadelle is ok)

As part of the trial we can cover patients' co-payment for their physiotherapy twice a week from six weeks post-surgery.

- The trial webpage can be found here: <https://sites.google.com/tcd.ie/femaleaclrehab/home>
- A recruitment video can be found here: <https://youtu.be/y35c9L7jAbA>

See the attached flyer for more information. Any questions email Emma.Carlin@ccdhb.org.nz.

NGĀ TOHU ANGITU CELEBRATING SUCCESS AWARDS – LIST OF NOMINATIONS

Congratulations to everyone who has been nominated for an award, and thanks to all those who took time to make a nomination. See below for a full list of who has been nominated under which category.

<https://www.ccdhb.org.nz/for-health-professionals/covid-19-resources-for-our-community-providers/2021-celebrating-success-awards/>

All nominations will be now collated and judged by a panel. We're making plans for how we'll celebrate the achievements of our staff under the constraints of COVID-19 alert levels 1 and 2, and will share news when plans have been finalised.

WELLBEING FOR OUR TAMARIKI

The Ministry of Health has added three new resources by Triple P to their website. These resources support parents and caregivers to manage their children's development and anxiety.

[Mental health and wellbeing resources](#)

Just a thought has some excellent resources for anyone who is experiencing stress and anxiety. The Staying On Track course and its resources are worth checking out: <https://www.justathought.co.nz/covid19>

THANK YOU

Thank you for all your mahi. Please take some time over the weekend or the course of the week to enjoy nature and, in particular, the kowhai flowering around the city.

Please remind your friends and whānau to get information on COVID-19 and the vaccine from our trusted sources – the [Ministry of Health website](#), [Unite Against COVID channels](#), [Karawhiua channels](#), the [Te Puni Kōkiri 'COVID-19 Information for Māori' portal](#) and [Positively Pacific](#).

If you have any questions or concerns please email us at COVID-19questions@ccdhb.org.nz and a member of the team will respond. Or you can contact your contract manager.

A reminder that our previous provider updates and any attachments can be found here <https://www.ccdhb.org.nz/for-health-professionals/covid-19-resources-for-our-community-providers/>

Rachel Haggerty

Director, 2DHB Strategy, Planning & Performance