

Provider Network Update

October 15 2021

We remain at Alert Level 2. 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 vaccination update
 - Super Saturday Events
 - First Pasifika Youth Vax Festival Vaccination Day tomorrow
 - Delta BUS-ter hits the road
 - MPs visit Waiwhetu
 - MetLink free travel to vaccinations
 - Addressing vaccine hesitance
 - Strathmore Community Centre hosts vaccinations
 - “Vaccination Everywhere” waiata
- Comirnaty MRNA COVID-19 vaccine and myocarditis – plus attachment
- Mandatory vaccinations for healthcare staff
- My Covid Record website launched
- COVID-19 testing, diagnosis, assessment and treatment is free
- Return To Nursing Practice programme information sessions
- New Study – Can eating a high quality Aotearoa New Zealand diet improve health and wellbeing?
- Transition Unit People Panui – plus attachments
- Ngā Tohu Angitu Celebrating Success Awards – Full list of nominations for both DHBs
- He Ako Hiringa new Legendary Conversations podcast series online
- Wellbeing

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

COVID-19 VACCINATION UPDATE

SUPER SATURDAY EVENTS – 16 OCTOBER

Greater vaccination capacity, local competitions and other incentives are on offer for Super Saturday this 16 October. We are targeting Māori and Pacific and young people 19 to 30 years of age. So if you know whānau or friends who have not been vaccinated (or are still to have a second dose), but could be persuaded or supported to, let them know about Super Saturday Vax A Nation.

Super Saturday Vaccination events are being held at more than 45 venues across Greater Wellington will be offering vaccinations - including marae, vaccination centres, pop up events – with a drive to vaccinate over 100,000 people on the day. Some sites are offering incentives like the Do it 4 the East Pasifika Youth Vax

festival, Sky Stadium Drive-Thru – accessible clinics, and the Delta BUS-ter (see below). Many sites are offering food, prizes and giveaways.

Political representatives will be out in force with the Prime Minister, cabinet ministers, and Dr Ashley Bloomfield visiting sites around the Hutt, Porirua and Wellington.

Help encourage young people (19-35) you know to get vaccinated and go in the draw for Homegrown tickets. Terms and conditions apply (*Capital & Coast DHB and Hutt Valley DHB employees and their immediate families, participating agents or providers, and their associated agencies are ineligible to enter*).

More information can be found here: [Vaccinate Greater Wellington - Super Saturday](#).

PORIRUA'S FIRST PASIFIKA YOUTH VAX FESTIVAL VACCINATION DAY

In a collaboration between Hutt Valley and Capital & Coast DHBs, Ora Toa PHO, and Porirua Pasifika Youth Vax aims to inform, encourage, and empower our Pasifika youth to get the vaccine. History shows Pasifika people have suffered during pandemics. Samoa was hit hard by a measles epidemic and, before that, the influenza pandemic that hit Samoa in 1918.

DELTA BUS-TER HITS THE ROAD

The Māori vaccination programme has hit 70% first dose vaccination after a monumental effort by all providers across the region. Watch for the Delta BUS-ter in Fairfield, Lower Hutt making its debut appearance on Super Saturday.



The bus is a mobile vaccination clinic that will go out to areas of the Hutt with the highest remaining levels of unvaccinated Māori and Pacific peoples indicated by the suburb data the Māori team is working with.

Delta BUS-ter is a collaboration between Kokiri Marae Keriana Olsen Trust and Te Awakairangi Health Network. The bus was lent by MetLink to assist with the drive to vaccinate the most vulnerable.

MPS VISIT WAIWHETU VACCINATION CLINIC

COVID-19 Response Minister and MP for Remutaka Chris Hipkins visited the Waiwhetu Sports Centre vaccination clinic to speak with staff and thank them for their continued great work. He was accompanied by Speaker and long time Hutt MP Trevor Mallard, MP Chris Bishop, a list MP from Hutt South and National's COVID-19 Response Spokesperson, and Lower Hutt Mayor Campbell Barry.

The Waiwhetu vaccination clinic attracted a lot of attention during lockdown by leading the way with the first Drive-Through vaccinations.

METLINK FREE TRAVEL TO VACCINATIONS

A reminder Metlink is still offering free return trips on all of its buses and trains for anyone getting a vaccination and Super Saturday is no exception.

Let people know to enjoy a free return trip they need to show their appointment, either on paper, on your device or let the driver or train staff know you are heading to or from your vaccination.

Passengers unable to use buses or trains are encouraged to contact Metlink directly on 0800 801 700 to arrange community transport to and from their vaccination centre.

ADDRESSING VACCINE HESITANCY

Let's korero is a theme running through the day, encouraging people who may be hesitant or unsure to come and ask questions. Unite Against COVID-19 has some great conversation pointers for talking with people in a positive and respectful way here: <https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19-vaccines/get-the-facts-about-covid-19-vaccination/how-to-talk-to-your-friends-and-whanau-about-the-covid-19-vaccine/>

Sit down with them to look at trusted resources like the Unite against COVID-19 and Ministry of Health websites. You will find reliable information about things like the vaccine, safety and effectiveness. If appropriate, offer to help them look for information.

- [Unite against COVID-19](#)
- [Ministry of Health\(external link\)](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination: Your questions answered](#)
- [Information for Māori communities — Karawhiau\(external link\)](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination information — Ministry for Pacific Peoples](#)
- [Plus our own local Positively Pacific website.](#)

STRATHMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE HOSTS VACCINATIONS

A vaccination outreach supported the work of the Strathmore Community Centre today as part of its Freshen Up day. Parents came in with children to get free haircuts and supplies for going back to school. **Miramar Pharmacy** provided the vaccination service and will continue to return to the centre for further vaccination outreach aimed at bringing down the number of unvaccinated people within their community.

VACCINATIONS EVERYWHERE WAIATA

Clinicians in Northland have produced a clever, lighthearted waiata about a serious kaupapa to promote vaccination across Aotearoa. This catchy and familiar tune mentions so many towns and cities around the country. How many towns and cities in the Wellington region can you spot? The video is produced by Lincoln and Nora, sung by Lincoln, and shared by Northland DHB to "spread a little bit of joy". You'll find it here: <https://youtu.be/PTiEGyVU1Zw>

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/>

COMIRNATY MRNA COVID-19 VACCINE & MYOCARDITIS

Clinical Lead for 2DHB COVID-19 Response Dr Michelle Balm advises the Comirnaty mRNA COVID-19 vaccine is safe, and serious adverse events remain very low. There is no association with clotting events. It is safe for immunocompromised people and those with food, drug, or other vaccine allergies.

Further information can be found here: [The Whole Truth: almost everyone can have the Pfizer COVID vaccine.](#)

An association with myocarditis has been identified, mostly in younger males, but this is still a very rare side effect and occurs at a much lower frequency than myocarditis due to COVID-19 infection itself. Further information is attached, and can also be found here: [IMAC Myocarditis Factsheet.](#)

MANDATORY VACCINATIONS FOR HEALTHCARE STAFF

An amendment will be made to the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Vaccinations) Order 2021 that will require a new set of workers in the health and disability sector to be fully vaccinated by 1 December 2021.

Vaccination is already mandatory for high-risk roles (including health worker roles) in Border, MIF and MIQ settings. This amendment seeks to extend that requirement so that certain roles in the health and disability sector are also covered by this order, including:

- Regulated professions currently registered under the HPCA regulations
- Non-regulated professions in the following healthcare setting:
 - Aged Residential Care Facilities (ARC)
 - Home and Community Care Services (HCSS)
 - Kaupapa Māori Health Providers
 - Pacific Health Providers
 - Non-Government Organisations who provide health services
- Roles undertaken by people who:
 - are in frequent contact, face-to-face contact, or are in close proximity to healthcare workers providing a health service
 - work where a health service is being provided
 - do not necessarily provide a health service, but their role requires frequent contact/engagement with those providing health services and is considered tied to a role within a healthcare setting.

Any health and disability workers who fall under the categories above must receive their first dose of the vaccine by 30 October and their second dose by 1 December 2021.

Within our DHBs we are still working through what this means for staff across our hospitals and communities, and how we can support our workforce. We expect to provide more detailed information next week.

MY COVID RECORD WEBSITE LAUNCHED

Kiwis can now view their COVID-19 vaccination records through the website [My Covid Record](#), as the first step in our work towards providing vaccination certificates.

My Covid Record is one of the tools Ministry of Health is putting in place to help enable New Zealand to open up. Later this month, COVID-19 test results will be available on My Covid Record. And from late November, vaccination certificates will be available for use within New Zealand and abroad.

The exact timing for when and where vaccination proof will be required are still being finalised. The Government is also consulting with the business, hospitality and events sectors on the finer details of how it will work.

COVID-19 TESTING, DIAGNOSIS, ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT FREE

The Ministry of Health's position is that COVID-19 testing, diagnosis, assessment and treatment is free, irrespective of citizenship, visa status, nationality or medical insurance coverage, but excluding pre-departure testing.

This stance supports the objective of reducing or avoiding the spread of COVID-19 by minimising the risk of a person avoiding or delaying being tested due to concern about, or an inability to pay, for the cost of testing.

Specifically, this means that assessment and testing should be free of charge to the patient where:

- a person presents at a general practice, is advised to be tested for COVID-19 and declines the test
- a person is tested for COVID-19, including if the clinician has not recommended testing and they are not required to be tested for some other reason (possible contact, requirement to cross a regional boundary or similar).

The only exception to this rule should be for pre-departure testing, as noted above. Pre-departure testing conducted in New Zealand is to meet the COVID-19 testing requirements of the destination country.

RETURN TO NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAMME

If you, or anyone you know, has been out of practice for less than eight years, already hold Nursing Council registration, but your annual practising certificate has expired, our Return to Nursing Programme will give you the tools to get back into the workforce.

Information Sessions will be held from 9.30 to 2pm on the following days/locations:

- Monday October 18th, Hutt Hospital auditorium, 9.30am to 2pm
- Wednesday October 20th, Wellington Regional Hospital, Easthorpe Lecture Theatre L12 WSB.
- Wednesday October 27th, Kenepuru Community Hospital, Tui Room, Te Papa Building

For further information or to reserve a place please contact Jolene.Ingram@ccdhb.org.nz

CAN EATING A HIGH-QUALITY AOTEAROA NZ DIET IMPROVE HEALTH & WELLBEING?

CCDHB Centre for Endocrine, Diabetes and Obesity Research is looking for people aged 25-70 years who are at risk of / have a family history of diabetes or heart disease, and have household/whānau members happy to join this 12-week trial to eat a healthy diet.

You will receive meals, recipes and support to follow this diet for 12 weeks. You will need to visit our clinic at Wellington Regional Hospital three times, and your household/whānau members will visit twice.

If you're interested in taking part please contact diabetesresearch@ccdhb.org.nz.

PEOPLE PĀNUI - COMMUNICATION FROM THE HEALTH REFORM TRANSITION UNIT

The Health and Disability Review Transition Unit has produced its first people pānui, which will be a regular newsletter covering health system reform news and updates for the health workforce. It contains an update from the Minister, articles and frequently asked questions from the workforce. There is also an accompanying timeline of key dates. The pānui and timeline are both attached.

Minister Little has also filmed [a short video message which you can view here](#)

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. The full lists of nominees are now online.

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

<http://www.huttvalleydhb.org.nz/about-us/celebrating-success-awards/>

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.

HE AKO HIRINGA NEW PODCAST SERIES

He Ako Hiringa has released a new podcast series *Legendary Conversations* which focuses on aspects of primary care in Aotearoa New Zealand. Episode one *Initiating new medicines (part 1)* is out now. Featuring an interview with Professor Keith Petrie from University of Auckland Medical School, this episode explores the psychological effects of taking medicines. Professor Petrie discusses why prescribers exhibit new medicines hesitancy, how this might impact patients, and how to minimise the nocebo effect.

Initiating new medicines (part 2) is due to be released shortly and will include a scripted conversation demonstrating how to talk to patients about starting new medicines.

Please feel free to publish links to our podcast and/or this press release and imagery in your internal communications. *Initiating new medicines (part 1)* can be found here

<https://www.akohiringa.co.nz/education/episode-one-initiating-new-medicines-part-1> and is also available on [Spotify](#), [He Ako Hiringa](#) and has also been promoted on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

WELLBEING – STAYING IN TOUCH WITH NATURE

As the days warm up, simple activities like exploring the outdoors with whānau and friends, getting into the garden, or taking the dog for a walk can improve your mood, reduce feelings of stress and anxiety, and is a lovely way to spend some time away from work. While you're outdoors, listen for the distinctive call shining cuckoo which has just reappeared in Aotearoa for the spring, and see what other birdcalls you can identify:

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/native-animals/birds/bird-songs-and-calls/>

THANK YOU

Thank you for all the great work you are doing.

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/>

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