

Provider Network Update

October 29 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
- Disability Panui
- Pae Ora (Healthy Futures)
- PM visits Lower Hutt 'Super Accessible' site
- Health Pathways Webinar – Managing COVID-19 in the community
- Health NZ and Maori Health Authority Acting Chief Executives announced
- New Ministry for Disabled People
- Upcoming changes for returnees in MIQFs
- Medsafe reviews provisional approval for Pfizer vaccine
- Wellbeing

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

COVID-19 VACCINATION UPDATE

MĀORI VACCINATION PROGRAMME UPDATE

Māori COVID-19 vaccination in the Wellington Region is closing in on 80% first dose vaccination. The expectation is to hit that mark by the end of next week. Following that, if the current trend continues, the team should reach 80% second dose Māori vaccination by the first week of December.

The addition of higher levels of outreach by Māori and other providers is seeing encouraging results. Last Saturday a vaccination team vaccinated from inside a gang headquarters. In many ways it was a trust building process as much as vaccination. The day began with an information session that included Professor Graham LeGros, Director of the Malaghan Institute. When the speaking was over one young gang member walked straight into the vaccination area and told the administrators he had been “anti the vaccination but because they had taken the trouble to be at their pad he would be vaccinated”. What may appear within data as just one more vaccination is often loaded with significance. The team will go back again in three weeks to reacquaint and vaccinate more people.

The term for the effort taking place now is doggedness. The commitment of staff working with Māori providers is beyond impressive and the effort is epic. In Kāpiti, staff at Hora Te Pai are playing a significant role in pushing the numbers of unvaccinated Māori down to the point where the next set of data should show under a thousand remain unvaccinated. But none of the work is easy. It has required perseverance in the face of resistance.

The PHOs are also playing a significant part in the Maori programme. Te Awakairangi Health Network is working hand-in-glove with Kokiri Marae Keriana Olsen Trust to run the Delta BUS-ter mobile vaccination clinic. Each week's updated suburb data focuses where the bus will operate from. Tu Ora Compass is also deeply enmeshed in Maori vaccination and has assisted the 2DHB Māori team many times in problem solving and the team is grateful for that.

UPDATE FROM PACIFIC TEAM

The Pacific Vaccination Roll Out continues with specific Festival Days held across Wellington, and more are planned for November and December in close collaboration with the PHOs, Churches, Community leaders and ethnic groups. Pacific peoples are at 80% first dose.

Visit Positively Pacific for latest news and updates: <https://positivelypacific.org.nz/>

KORERO AND VACCINATION AT THE RUGBY

A COVID-19 vaccination and information marquee was set up at Porirua Park, Wellington, for the Lions vs Southland game in Porirua on Saturday 23 October.

Patrons could korero about vaccination and get vaccinated if they chose to. A number of undecided people made their decision to get vaccinated on the day, as did six rugby players. Kai packs and merchandise were on offer, with some rugby players available to answer questions about the vaccine. The goal was to offer a safe and welcoming place where people could access reliable information about the vaccine.

Ora Toa PHO COVID-19 response Logistics and Engagement lead Ivana Pereira said "we are trying to go out to spaces where the community – particularly youth are gathered." Read more about the event in the [NZ Herald](#)

WHAT'S IT LIKE TO HAVE COVID?

Luke McLean-McMahon a young Pacific male has shared his story of having COVID-19 and its long term effects.

Many young people ask COVID survivor former Porirua resident, Luke McLean-McMahon "what's it like to have COVID-19?". At the start of March 2020 Luke was fit, healthy and active. He was having the time of his life and "I didn't really think Covid was a thing", then on 13 March 2020, long before we had the vaccine, he caught COVID-19.

More than a year later Luke is still suffering from the long-term damage COVID-19 has caused to his heart and lungs. He is sharing his COVID-19 experience so that others don't have to go through what he is still suffering from.

To read the whole story <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/covid-damaged-his-heart-19-months-later-this-new-zealander-is-still-struggling/JSYIA63W2ZBY2CWXWEXGS73NR4/#>

And check out Luke's story on the Positively Pacific page <https://www.facebook.com/positivelypacific/>

VACCINATION IN PREGNANCY

NZ College of Midwives website has reputable resources and general information about COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy and lactation. It includes videos in many languages including sign language, and downloadable resources – including some simple information leaflets attached. You can find more information here: <https://www.midwife.org.nz/women/covid-vaccination-in-pregnancy/>

TARGETED VACCINATION EVENTS

UPCOMING RAINBOW EVENTS

Halloween Vaccine Event

Saturday 30 October. Youth 12+ & whanau 11.00am – 3:00pm, Adults 5:30pm -8:30

Lower Hutt Vaccination Centre, 218 High Street Lower Hutt

LOW SENSORY EVENTS

Monday 1 November 10am-12pm

Low sensory clinic – Porirua

Community Vaccination Centre, Lydney Place, Porirua

Longer appointment times, quieter environment, fewer people.

Sunday 24 November 10:30 to 1:00pm

Wellington Hearing Association, 16 Kent Terrace, Mount Victoria

A low sensory event with more space, longer appointments, low light noise and scent

Walk in appointments are available but bookings are preferred. Contact us to find out more. Call: 0900 828 835, Text 027 281 5017 or email: 2DHBCovidSGD@ccdhb.org.nz.

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/>

DISABILITY PANUI

The 3DHB Disability Strategy Team has put out its latest panui. The panui is for disabled people and those connected with the disability community to give insight into the team's work. There is a lot of work going on which the team is keen to get input from the disability community – especially around maternity services and mental health services.

This issue covers updates on mental health, maternity services, Whakarongorau, accessibility resources, and more. You can read the panui here: <https://mailchi.mp/d7d1fc83cab8/news-from-the-3dhb-disability-team-10685584>

PAE ORA (HEALTHY FUTURES) BILL ON LINE

The Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Bill sets the context for a system that works for everyone, no matter who they are or where they live. This is a landmark piece of legislation shaping healthcare in the future.

- [Watch the stakeholder briefing on the introduction of the Bill](#)
 - [Read more about the Bill](#)
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PM VISITS LOWER HUTT 'SUPER ACCESSIBLE' SITE



In recognition of our 2DHB leadership in improving accessibility in health care for disabled people, Prime Minister Jacinda Adern visited our Lower Hutt Vaccination Centre, a “Super Accessible” site.

The Disability Equity team and PHOs have worked closely together since the start of the 2DHB vaccination programme to lead the way in ensuring our COVID-19 vaccination sites and processes are as accessible as possible for everyone, with staff training, building audits and resource packs including communication cards for Deaf and hard of hearing

people, Easy Read information, sensory tools and NZSL signage.

Many of these resources have been, or can be, adapted for other situations. If you would like any resources, please contact the Disability team.

HEALTH PATHWAYS WEBINAR – MANAGING COVID-19 IN THE COMMUNITY

Wednesday 3 November 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm [Register Here](#)

This webinar will introduce an evolving clinical pathway for safely managing COVID-19 positive patients in the community. Topics will include risk stratification, remote monitoring and escalation of care, and next steps to supporting primary care nationally.

Presenters are:

- **Dr Samantha Murton**
President, Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners
- **Dr Justine Lancaster**
GP, Chief Clinical Advisor, Primary Care at the Ministry of Health
- **Dr Janine Close**
GP, HealthPathways Clinical Editor

The format will be a Zoom webinar, followed by a moderated discussion using the Zoom Q&A feature. Participants can join using an internet connected device with sound, (such as tablet, iPad, laptop, or desktop computer). The session will be recorded and later hosted on HealthPathways, for those unable to attend the live session.

This activity has been endorsed by RNZCGP and has been approved for up to 1 CME credit.

INTERIM ENTITIES STOOD UP FROM 1 NOVEMBER

The two interim entities Health New Zealand and the Māori Health Authority now have Acting Chief Executives - Martin Hefford and Chad Paraone respectively. Both have been leading key workstreams in the Transition Unit.

[Read more about Chad's work within the health sector and the Transition Unit on the Future of Health website](#)
[Read more about Martin's work within the health sector and the Transition Unit on the Future of Health website](#)

NEW MINISTRY TO LEAD DISABILITY SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION

The Government has announced the establishment of a Ministry for Disabled People which will lead cross-government strategic disability policy, deliver and transform Disability Support Services, and progress work on broader Disability System Transformation.

Our DHBs' vaccination programme (see earlier stories) has shown first-hand the importance of having disabled people involved in leadership to create environments that lead to accessible and inclusive healthcare services.

The majority of our 3DHB Disability team are disabled people themselves and work hard to promote accessibility across our DHBs.

UPCOMING CHANGES FOR RETURNEES IN MIQFS

On 28 October, the Government announced its decision to reduce the time spent in managed isolation facilities (MIFs) for international returnees from 14 days to 7 days, followed by 3 days self-isolation, with release subject to a negative day 9 test result from a test taken in the community. This change will come into effect on 14 November 2021.

This follows developments in our knowledge of COVID-19 transmission, infectious periods, and testing approaches, particularly around the Delta variant, meaning that the length of time that people are required to be in managed isolation can be decreased with minimal additional risk to the community.

Medsafe renews provisional approval for Pfizer vaccine

Medsafe has renewed the provisional approval for the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to be used in New Zealand. The renewal of provisional approval is for a period of two years, until 3 November 2023.

[Medsafe renews COVID-19 vaccine provisional approval - Ministry of Health](#)

WELLBEING – 6 WAYS TO MAKE YOURSELF FEEL BETTER

When you are feeling down or stressed, it can be helpful to look for things you can do to make yourself feel better quickly. While there are things that are simply outside of your control, there are lots of actionable steps you can take to seize control and feel better right now.

<https://www.verywellmind.com/how-to-make-yourself-feel-better-right-now-5093352> for tips and podcast.

THANK YOU

Thank you for all the great work you are doing. As we head into another weekend, I hope each of you find time with your whānau and friends to rest, relax, and recover.

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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