

# PANDEMIC COMMUNICATION: COVID-19 PROVIDER NETWORK UPDATE

August 25 2021

There number of community cases in Wellington community is now at 12. This is not unexpected. We are supporting those cases, including their whanau, in many ways, including through our managed isolation facility in Wellington.

In this update:

- COVID-19 testing numbers
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- Pacific Vaccinations
- Māori Vaccinations
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- Revised primary care quick reference guide
- Scam alert

## COVID-19 TESTING NUMBERS

We are publishing the latest numbers for testing in our two DHB regions [on our websites](#) and social media each day for the 24 hours prior.

Today's numbers – 2628 for CCDHB and 467 for HVDHB, making a total of 3,095 tests processed until midnight 24 August.

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/>

## SECOND DRIVE THROUGH VACCINATION CLINIC

Following the success of the Waiwhetu Sport Centre vaccination Drive Through, a second Drive Through clinic is being organised by Maori provider Ora Toa. The pilot clinic begins tomorrow 26 August from 10am – 2pm at the New World underground carpark in North City Plaza, Porirua. It is targeting Māori and Pacific communities. Response to the event has been overwhelming.

## PACIFIC VACCINATIONS

Pacific Festival Days have been a great success for vaccinating the Pacific communities but cannot operate at Alert Level 4. Pacific Health Plus is running a vaccination clinic in Porirua and the Ora Toa Drive Through pilot is expected to attract Pacific People in large numbers.

The Positively Pacific website and Facebook pages are a source of accurate and relevant information for the region's Pacific communities. You can see a walkthrough of the Pacific Health Plus clinic in action here <https://www.facebook.com/CCDHB/videos/201378025356086>

## MAORI VACCINATIONS

All five Maori providers involved in the COVID-19 vaccination programme are now at the point where they have developed a steady rhythm to the delivery of vaccinations. Several weeks ago they were asked to double capacity and all responded to the need.

The challenge for them since the advent of the National Booking System has been the loss of the ability to target Maori through that system. However, they are all developing shadow systems where they are going out into their communities to assist people to book online. It is common to find people have no internet connections and therefore no ability to book vaccinations, so this outreach is important and valuable.

## ACCESS TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT DURING ALERT LEVEL 4

During Alert Level 4 Metlink has adopted the policy that all passengers must use the back door to enter buses, and have no attendants working on trains to provide boarding assistance. This is to give their drivers a safe bubble to work from, but creates accessibility issues for many disabled people who rely on public transport to access food, healthcare and other services.

Metlink has urged anyone who cannot board the bus by the rear entrance or board the train unassisted to contact them to arrange a (fare-free) taxi, wheelchair accessible vehicle, or other alternative transport. Please keep this in mind if you encounter people struggling to access necessities or your service due to inaccessible transport.

## SERVICES AND SUPPORT AT ALERT LEVEL 4

Wellington City Council has produced a 'one-stop' resource page covering what to do if your clients/patients need food, where to get hot meals, how to sign up for priority grocery delivery, how to access emergency accommodation, and how to access financial support. See also the Quick Reference info sheet **attached**.

In particular, the site offers a line of support for people who feel unsafe in their bubble, or are worried about someone who may be vulnerable.

The council contact centre is available 24/7 on 04 499 4444 or by texting 3400.

An interactive map of where support services are located can be found here:

<https://wellington.govt.nz/news-and-events/news-and-information/civil-emergency-news-and-information/covid-19/help-and-support---lvl-4/services-map>

## USE OF PPE IN HEALTH AND DISABILITY CARE SETTINGS

Ministry of Health continues to update this information, including the advice for community care providers who are providing care in people's place of residence. **See attached**.

We recommend you check this page regularly <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-personal-protective-equipment-central-supply/personal-protective-equipment-use-health-and-disability-care-settings>

## REVISED PRIMARY CARE QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

The Ministry has published a revised Primary Care Quick Reference Guide.

The guide is a summary of information for community healthcare providers involved in assessing and managing undifferentiated respiratory illness and queries regarding COVID-19 risk and need for testing.

The latest version updates use of P2/N95 particulate respirators, PPE for symptomatic patients, notification advice, and isolation exemption for vaccinated essential healthcare workers who are household members of close contacts.

See the Ministry's COVID-19 Primary care page here <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-health-professionals/covid-19-primary-care>

## TESTING TEXT SCAM

Ministry of Health advises there are reports that some people have received text messages saying they have tested positive for COVID-19. Please note, and remind your patients/clients, that all positive test results are notified by a phone call. Only negative results are notified by text message. If anyone receives one of these text messages informing of a positive test result, advise them to ignore it.

## THANK YOU

Thank you again for your ongoing support for our whānau and our communities. Your work, especially during such challenging times, is important and I want to acknowledge that.

If you have any questions or concerns please email us at [COVID-19questions@ccdhb.org.nz](mailto: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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