

COVID-19 FAST FACTS 13 MAY



Auckland PHO funding for COVID-19 Capital Expenses

We are pleased to announce that we will fund \$200 to our general practices for COVID-19 Capital Expenses such as Perspex safety screens for reception areas.

Tomorrow you will receive an e-voucher from Auckland PHO that you can redeem after you have completed the purchase of equipment along with the names and contact details for the screens.

0800 COVIDVAN – reminder to make referrals

Patients with potential COVID-19 infection should be encouraged to contact their primary care provider in the first instance, and reassured that they can be managed by their primary care provider where it is safe to do so. However if the patient is unable to get to a designated practice or CBAC for swabbing, and the general practice is not able to offer a home visiting service please refer to the mobile Covid-19 swabbing service. This service is available to people who meet the following criteria:

- A person who fits current case definition with symptoms (other household members who are asymptomatic will also be offered swabbing) AND;
 - A person who is unable to access a CBAC (Community Cased Assessment Centre) or other testing site OR
 - A person resident at an Aged Residential Care facility/Hospice and the usual provider (GP) is not able to provide swabbing service OR
 - A person referred by a Māori or Pacific provider OR
 - A person referred by Kainga Ora (previously known as Housing NZ) OR
 - A person referred by IMT Welfare due to identified need

Current Covid-19 Response – Cervical Screening

On Friday 24th April the National Screening Unit sent the attached communications with advice regarding cervical screening to Primary Care Providers. This message further clarifies the following:

- Current laboratory processing of samples
- Change to follow up guidelines for women discharged from colposcopy
- Upcoming release of new *Clinical Practice Guidelines for Cervical Screening in New Zealand*
- Referrals to Support to Screening Providers

Cervical Screening Samples

From Tuesday 28 April Anatomic Pathology Services and Southern Community Laboratories are processing and reporting on cytology and human papillomavirus (HPV) samples. There is a slight delay in turnaround time for some HPV reporting.

Changes to follow up guidelines for women discharged from colposcopy

From April 2020 some women will be discharged from colposcopy with a request to their Primary Care Provider to complete the test of cure process.

What do I need to do? When your patient is discharged from colposcopy you will receive a discharge letter with instructions regarding follow up and test of cure. Adding a recall date or task on receipt of the discharge letter will help ensure appropriate follow up. The woman will also receive a copy of this letter.

Release of New Guidelines for Cervical Screening

Some providers have been looking for the new *Clinical Practice Guidelines for Cervical Screening in New Zealand 2020*. These are yet to be published; a notification will be made when they are available on the National Screening Unit website.

Referrals to Support to Screening Providers

Support to Screening Providers are accepting referrals for eligible unscreened and underscreened women now and will begin providing cervical screening from 12 May 2020.

In Auckland and Waitemata DHBs Well Women and Family Trust: www.wons.org.nz Phone (09) 846 7886.
Counties Manukau Health Support to Screening Phone 0800 729729 - option 3

For further information please contact DHB Coordinators:

Jane Grant 021 195 3439 jane.grant@waitemataadhb.govt.nz Auckland and Waitemata DHB's
Meena Narang 021 893 879 meena.narang@middlemore.co.nz Counties Manukau DHB

[FINAL NCSP Communication to primary care - pandemic and guideline changes 24 April 2020.pdf](#) [424 KB]

Laboratory Update – Collection Centre protocols with transition to level 2

Please see attached Laboratory Update. This contains information on:

- Collection Centre protocols with transition to Level 2
- Home visits protocols
- Collection centre hours
- Testing restrictions

[200512transitiontolevel2.pdf](#)

ACC home visits: are you claiming the right amount?

It appears GPs are not claiming their full entitlement when they do ACC home visits. ACC has asked us to remind members that they can claim against the following three codes for such visits:

- The consultation rate that would otherwise apply if the patient visited the GPs practice.
- The travelling fee set at 73c per km.
- An hourly rate set at \$44.11 excl. GST (expected to cover the costs of the clinician's time travelling to and from and the patient's location).

More information

Changes to the Disability Allowance application process

The Ministry of Social development has advised of changes to the Disability Allowance application process, which you can view by clicking the button below. The MSD would like to remind clinicians that the allowance is limited to \$65 a week and unfunded items (such as CBD oil or continuous blood glucose monitors) still require a letter explaining why they should now be funded by MSD. For MSD support for counselling, clinicians must provide a referral to the counsellor, including instances where the clinician has not completed an MSD counselling medical certificate. With respect to counselling, the Ministry of Health has provided resources on this on its [COVID-19 website](#).

Find out more

Primary Care Update: Issue 2 for general practice, PHOs and DHBs

- Guidance for Well Child Tamariki Ora services COVID-19 Level Alert 2
- Guidelines for Health Practitioners to securely send High Use Health Card Application forms to the Ministry of Health
- Guidelines for Health Practitioners to securely send Special Authority Application forms to the Ministry of Health
- Primary Care Update - Information for general practices, PHOs and DHBs

Your Health Record (Shared Primary Care Summary Record)

We are pleased to announce that a new Shared Primary Care record, also called Your Health Record is coming soon to all Practices in Metro Auckland. Funding for this has been approved by the three DHBs in Metro Auckland and the contract is held by the Health Alliance on behalf of the DHBs and is a joint initiative between all the PHOs in Auckland.

The structure is in place and ready to load immediately. There will be no cost to general practices and a small amount of funding will be paid to you for the installation.

Your Health Record allows the sharing of health information through a Shared Primary Care Summary improves patient safety and allows continuity of care in an environment where patients may not be seeing their usual doctor in a usual model of care. This is particularly helpful during the Covid-19 pandemic when patients who are confirmed or suspected to have Covid-19 may require urgent healthcare services outside of their regular practice.

Health professionals will have access to an up-to-date summary of patient information (diagnoses, medications, demographics etc) at the time a patient presents, can deliver health care in a more safe, efficient and thorough manner.

We will soon supply Practices with further information regarding the consenting processes, data extraction, results of the Privacy Impact Assessment, installation and FAQ.