

The weekly newsletter of Auckland PHO provides details of events, meetings, clinical information and PHO Programmes to our Practices

LATEST MOH APPROVED KEY COVID-19 MESSAGES

Please see attachment (1) for the latest approved key COVID-19 messages.

- QFT travel updates
- Locations of interest in Australia
- Time-sensitive applications for MIQ allocation for health professionals-blanket endorsement for Critical Health Workers
- Approval for widening the net of people who can undertake vaccinator workforce training has been granted (incl kaiawhina, non-NZ registered overseas trained health professional and retired practitioners).
- Medsafes provisional approval of the Janssen vaccine for those aged over 18yr in NZ

RADIOLOGY REFERRALS WDHb

A message from the radiology GP Liaison Dr Hopcroft
Feedback request for GPs referring to Waitemata DHB radiology,

The clinical team at Waitemata DHB Radiology are keen to get feedback from GPs re the provision of radiology services to primary care, which comprises nearly 40% of the Radiology workload.

Rather than using the thoroughly thrashed Survey Monkey system (the Survey in 2016 yielded 7 responses and in 2018 ten responses!) it was thought it would be better to ask you to simply email your thoughts in to us. These will remain entirely anonymous (unless you want a specific query answered). Short, sharp remarks are fine, and good grammar is not required. There's no point emailing that you want waiting list times reduced; we all know that and are seriously working to improve this. A big problem is the lack of trainee and qualified sonographers, so if you've got any ideas about this, send them in. Any and all sensible ideas, criticisms, and comments will be collated and distributed to clinicians and management.

It is our aim to be as transparent and responsive as possible to our referring GPs.

Please email GP Liaison at David.Hopcroft@waitematadhb.govt.nz

Radiology referral management

MEDINZ 24/06/2021 1:04:19 PM

There will be delays to general x-ray and CT scanning at North Shore and Waitakere hospitals while key radiology positions are recruited. Please be aware of this when referring to our service. For any enquiries about access to radiology services, call Radiology GP Liaison David Hopcroft on 021 874 664.

Please send feedback to David.Hopcroft@Waitematadhb.govt.nz

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS NEWSLETTER FROM THE HEART FOUNDATION

[Click here](#)

NEW ZEALAND MEDICAL JOURNAL

Read the latest issue Vol 134 No 1538: [9 July 2021](#)
Login: Barbara@aucklandpho.co.nz | Password: Yellow2020

INFLUENZA VACCINE

Auckland Central Medical has excess influenza vaccine for 65+ years in stock. If you would like to purchase these, please contact Shanaz@aucklandpho.co.nz.

MOH PRIMARY CARE REVIEW OF FIRST SPECIALIST (FSA) APPOINTMENT REVIEWS

MEDINZ 29/06/2021 5:36:24 PM

POAC is still open for GPs to claim the payment for the MoH Primary Care Review of patients on the waitlist for their first specialist appointment (FSA).

We have already seen benefits from this approach, and the Ministry of Health has approved Counties Manukau DHB to continue with this work until the funding is exhausted. GP practices may continue working through the NHIs on the FSA waitlist.

Just a reminder that the short consult (15 minutes) by a Nurse Practitioner/GP (\$80) can also be carried out as a telephone consult. Additional funding will still be provided for practices which achieve the equity target of reviewing 90% of Maaori/Pacific/Quintile 5 patients. Please ensure that payment is claimed within 48 hours of the patient review being completed.

We would like to thank the PHOs and the GP practices for their assistance with the reviews.

See attached review guidelines and process flow chart.

[MoH Primary Care Review Project Rules.pdf](#) [155.1 KB]

[Process Map Flow Chart.pdf](#) [61.4 KB]

Please send feedback to joy.burger@middlemore.co.nz.

PRACTICE NURSE PEER GROUP

Join Auckland PHO bi-monthly Practice Nurse Peer Group via zoom on:

Date: Wednesday, 14th July 2021

Time: 7pm – 8.30pm

Facilitator: **Alison Brown, Clinical Advisor Auckland PHO**

Register online [here](#) or email priscilla@aucklandpho.co.nz with your home email address by Monday, 12 July 2021.

Please see attachment (2)

CME/CNE DIABETES FOOT CARE & DSME

Date: Thursday, 29th July 2021

Time: 6.30 – 8.30pm

Venue: Auckland PHO, Level 4, 210 Khyber Pass Road, Grafton

RSVP: email priscilla@aucklandpho.co.nz by 27th July 2021

If you cannot attend in person and would like to watch the session via zoom, please register [here](#)

For more information please see attachment (3)

REGISTERED NURSE PRESCRIBING IN COMMUNITY HEALTH

Registered nurses practising in community health settings can complete a work-based education programme and then apply to Nursing Council for prescribing authority for a limited number of medicines for minor ailments and illnesses in normally healthy people without significant health problems.

This is a six-month blended learning programme, commencing with two face to face study days. The next course starts in September 2021 and is now open for registration.

Please refer to attachment (4) for all the information about the course, EOI, learning contract and handbook.

For questions or application documents please contact

PHCNursing@waitematadhb.govt.nz

SOME KEY DECISIONS HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED BY THE MOH REGARDING ASSISTED DYING

We are pleased to update you about the progress to implement the End of Life Choice Act 2019 (the Act) and assisted dying services in New Zealand. Assisted dying will be legal in New Zealand from 7 November 2021.

Please share the information where relevant with members of your organisation. There is also further information available on the [Ministry's website](#).

Implementation is progressing and a number of decisions have been made on the delivery of assisted dying, and the funding model.

Delivery of assisted dying services

Assisted dying services will be publicly funded in New Zealand and the Ministry of Health will be responsible for overseeing the funding and provision of assisted dying services. These decisions have been made by Cabinet and the [background Cabinet paper can be seen here](#).

To support equitable access to services, any medical or nurse practitioner who is suitably qualified, and willing to do so, will be able to provide parts of the assisted dying services.

If a practitioner is providing services through private practice, a non-government organisation or primary practice, they will be able to access funding through a fee-for-service model. This model is being developed.

Assisted dying services are most likely to be provided in a person's home or other community settings, rather than in hospital settings. A person's medical or nurse practitioner will be able to travel to the person to provide care, and travel costs will be funded.

The Support and Consultation for End of Life in New Zealand (SCENZ) group will maintain the lists of practitioners who will be involved in assisted dying services. This group is expected to be established during July, and expressions of interest will be invited from practitioners willing to provide assisted dying services.

For more detail, about the delivery and funding of assisted dying please see [the detailed information sheet](#) on the [Ministry website](#).

Funding mechanism

The funding mechanism to pay health practitioners for providing assisted dying services will be created through a section 88 Notice, under the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000.

The implementation team will now begin to work directly with representative groups of health and disability organisations to inform and develop the details of the Notice. This approach will ensure the funding mechanism is in place in time for 7 November 2021.

The Ministry will receive independent advice on the costing model and price schedule, and the level of funding that practitioners should be able to claim for completing parts of the service, and that advice will be informed by discussions with health and disability organisations representative of the sector.

If a practitioner is providing services as part of their employment within a district health board (DHB), DHB funding will cover these costs where assisted dying is being provided in the DHB setting.

Medicines

An eligible patient will not need to pay additional fees (such as prescription co-payments) when medications are prescribed for assisted dying.

The Ministry has work underway to ensure appropriate medicines are available.

Guidance and training resources for the health sector

Information and learning resources for health professionals and health service providers can be found on the Ministry's [LearnOnline platform](#).

The following resources are now available:

- **An e-learning module about the Act and assisted dying:** this module is suitable for all health professionals and can be completed by individuals or used as part of team meetings or for group learning.
- **A recording of the June webinar:** this webinar features medical practitioners sharing their experiences of providing assisted dying services overseas.
- **Planning resources for health service providers:** These include a preparation checklist and a scenario document to support planning for situations where a person may request assisted dying.

Further resources, including recordings of the implementation webinar series, will be added on [LearnOnline](#) as this work progresses. A module on the care pathway is expected in August/September.

Health professionals can register for the next implementation webinar on patient perspectives

Hosted on 14 July between 7-8pm, this webinar will cover research on patient perspectives of assisted dying, and will also provide an update about implementation progress.

Find out more and register here: https://mohnz.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_d3IQgmnxSuqv6Dobo4hbsw

Upcoming workforce survey

An invitation to complete a workforce survey will be issued over the next week. This is an opportunity for health professionals to provide their current views around the implementation of the assisted dying in New Zealand. The survey will be open until the end of July and will inform our implementation planning.

If you have questions, please contact us at eolc@health.govt.nz. Remember to [sign up for regular newsletters here](#).