

An independent newsletter for people interested in Aged Care

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**Emailed to:
2021 readers
and counting**

**Welcome to my
overseas readers**

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Another facility achieved 4 years certification against Ngā paerewa Health and Disability Service Standard.

Well done and Congratulations!


Matamata Country Lodge – Matamata (2nd time in a row!)

*If you are having an audit this month, then all the best.
Hope you achieve a good outcome.*

SPECIAL DAYS THIS MONTH

07 July — World Chocolate Day

12 July – Malala Day (the day of every woman, every boy and every girl who have raised their voice for their rights)

14 July – International Non-binary people's day. 

17 July—World Day for International Justice (promote international criminal justice and as a way of supporting the work of the International Criminal Court.

17 July —World Emoji Day

18 July - Nelson Mandela International day (to celebrate people's potential, better the world and the ability to create an impact.

28 July – World hepatitis day 

28 July—World Nature Conservation Day

30 July —International Day of Friendship

SAYING GOODBYE

From Roberta Nicholl who has been the programme manager for Counties Manukau and who will be missed.

After 40 years at Middlemore, 17 years as HOP Programme Manager, I am retiring on 6 July 2022. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you all over the past years. I think you are the unsung heroes of the health sector. You are all amazing; your resilience and dedication in caring for our older people, especially over the past 2 years, has made me very proud to be associated with the ARC sector.

I would like to introduce Katie Daniel who has been appointed as HOP Programme Manager for ARC.

Katie has a wealth of experience in HOP and has previously worked as a HOP Programme Manager at WDH in the Home and Community sector. Most recently she has working in the vaccination programme at NRHCC focussing on people with disabilities. I know you will welcome Katie, and she is looking forward to meeting you all in the future.

Katie can be contacted at Katie.Daniel@middlemore.co.nz; 021861870

Ngā mihi

Berta Nicoll

We wish Katie all the best in her new role and we wish Roberta a long, happy and healthy retirement. Jessica

HEALTH NZ / HAUORA AOTEAROA

Source: <https://www.futureofhealth.govt.nz/health-nz/>

District Health Boards (DHBs) have served New Zealand well for many years, but over time the system has become too complex and fragmented. Health New Zealand (Health NZ) will be a new organisation established to run the health system across New Zealand, with functions delivered at local, district, regional and national levels.

An interim Health NZ organisation was established in September 2021 to help drive the development of the permanent entity and its role within a newly transformed system.

What's changing? The reforms will disestablish the 20 existing DHBs and merge their functions into Health NZ, which will lead the day-to-day running of the system for the whole country. Health NZ will also take over the operational functions of the Ministry of Health, such as managing national contracts. Health NZ will manage all health services, including hospital and specialist services, and primary and community care. Hospital and specialist services will be planned nationally and delivered more consistently across the country. Primary health, wellbeing and community-based services will be planned and then purchased through four new regional divisions of Health NZ. Each region will work with their district offices, located closer to local communities, to develop and implement plans based on local needs to improve the health and wellbeing of communities.

Health NZ will be responsible for improving services and outcomes across the health system. Working in partnership with the Māori Health Authority, Health NZ will develop a New Zealand Health Plan – a blueprint for what the health system will deliver over years to come. The transition will be planned, staged, and managed to minimise disruption to services. DHB employees will transfer to Health NZ with existing terms and conditions. The formal date to transfer to the new structure is likely to be around 1 July 2022, after legislation is passed.

Why? Who you are or where you live should not determine the range and quality of services you receive. The reforms will give people access to consistent quality care when they need it, to help people live longer in good health and have the best quality of life. DHBs were set up 20 years ago to give communities a greater say in decision-making, but they have also created some barriers between areas. Over time, this has led to a focus on individual districts and not on what is best for New Zealand as a whole – creating variation and inequity between areas and populations. It has also led to complexity and duplication, with DHBs replicating functions such as procurement, IT systems and asset management that could be done more efficiently either nationally or regionally.

The health system has become too complicated. Decisions which impact everyone, like where we invest in new hospitals or services, are not made nationally. Too much time is spent enforcing boundaries between districts and professions, and not enough emphasis on how we can collectively work for the benefit of five million New Zealanders.

What will it look like in future? Health NZ's regional divisions and district offices will ensure continuity of services in the health system. As Health NZ establishes its new role and functions, the way services are planned and commissioned will change. There will be a focus on consistency and quality, and strengthening national and regional networks. Hospital and specialist services will be far more consistent, with more equity of access across New Zealand. People will have access to the right care at the right time no matter of where they live. Shifting the emphasis towards primary and community care will also allow more people to be cared for close to home, and take a greater role in their own care. Patients and employees will be able to move between areas to access care and work where needed.

What's next? The detailed design work over coming months will include engagement with the health sector and with people, whānau, and communities.

Why is the man
who invests all
your money
called a broker

2ND BOOSTER COVID-19 VACCINATION FOR RESIDENTS OF AGED RESIDENTIAL CARE

You will be aware that the Government has introduced a Bill to amend the Medicines Act, enabling voluntary booster doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to be administered to the most vulnerable people (six months following their first booster) by all vaccinators without a prescription.

The proposed eligible groups are:

- people aged 65 years and over
- Māori and Pacific peoples aged 50 years and over
- **Residents of aged care and disability care facilities**
- Severely immunocompromised people - who have received a three-dose primary course and a first booster.

The introduction of the Bill marks the beginning of a legislative process that may take up to the end of June 2022 to work through. Currently administering the 2nd booster can only take place with a prescription from the resident's GP.

The 2nd booster can be administered either 6 months after a resident received their 1st booster, or if they previously were a positive COVID-19 case, 3 months after they have recovered.

This means that the majority of residents will be due their 2nd booster vaccination during the months of June to August 2022.

The 2nd booster vaccination is important for our most vulnerable ARC residents, and provides extra protection against COVID-19, particularly as we move into the winter peak. It is anticipated that the 2nd booster vaccination will be administered in ARC by your vaccination provider (e.g. community pharmacy, GP) who administered the initial booster vaccination, and you should now be making arrangements for this to take place as soon as possible when your residents are due.

Once you have made arrangements for the boosters to be administered, could you complete the table below and return to your Programme Manager. We acknowledge that due to COVID-19 infection in the last 3 months some facilities may require more than one visit to complete all resident boosters.

Name of primary care vaccination provider:

Initial booking date for onsite resident vaccinations:

In case of any questions or problems please get in contact with your DHB programme manager.

Source: MOH

REMOVAL OF PRE-DEPARTURE TESTS

Travellers to New Zealand now no longer need a COVID-19 pre-departure test. Border surveillance measures for detecting any possible new variants of COVID-19 will remain, to understand what new strains of COVID are arriving at the border.

Travellers will still be required to self-test on Day 0/1 and again on Day 5/6. If the result of either test is positive, they must then get a PCR test.

The requirement for passengers entering New Zealand to be vaccinated and complete a New Zealand Traveller Declaration will continue.

To find out more go to www.covid19.govt.nz

When it comes to friends, it's quality, not quantity that counts.

COUNTRY STAYS AT ORANGE

New measures to help manage COVID-19 were announced by the Government today – as the country stays at orange.

[Media Release - New measures to help manage COVID-19 as country stays at Orange](#)

Reinfection advice amended

- The latest evidence shows that getting reinfected with COVID-19 can occur within a short period of time. Reinfection will become more likely as new variants spread among the community.
- If a person develops new symptoms consistent with COVID-19, and it's 29 days or more since a previous infection, it's possible they have a reinfection with COVID-19 and they should test using a rapid antigen test (RAT).
- Updated advice on getting infected again with COVID-19 after a previous COVID-19 infection and when people should take a RAT is available [on the Ministry of Health website](#).

Updated Guidance for clinicians on testing for possible COVID-19 reinfection

- We have also updated our clinical guidance for healthcare providers about how to manage patients who present with symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or a positive COVID-19 RAT, after a previous COVID-19 infection.
- Updated guidance on reinfection for clinicians is available [on the Ministry of Health website](#) and via the following links.
- [Clinical guidance on testing for possible covid-19 reinfection \(docx, 409 KB\)](#)

Flu vaccination

As well as the expanded criteria for funded flu vaccinations being announced, flu vaccinations are also free for people aged 65 and over, Māori and Pacific people aged 55 and over, anyone who is pregnant and people with underlying health issues like asthma, diabetes, and heart disease.

- The Ministry is encouraging all health and disability sector employees to get immunised against flu. To support health and disability workers not employed by DHBs, the Ministry of Health will reimburse employers the costs associated with vaccinating their patient- and client-facing employees.
- Applications for flu vaccination reimbursement up to a maximum of \$35 plus GST will be processed between 1 May 2022 and 30 September 2022. Guidance on applying for a reimbursement can be found [here](#).
- More information, including information in easy read format is available: [Flu \(influenza\) vaccine information on the Ministry of Health website](#)
- Detailed information, including a simple application template is available on the [Ministry of Health website](#).
- Information is also included in the Minister of Health's media release: [More free flu vaccines and a second COVID-19 booster to groups at risk of hospitalisation](#)

COVID-19 Resources

A range of COVID-19 resources are available, including for disabled people

- [Information and guidance on COVID-19 for aged care, disability support and hospice care providers \(health.govt.nz\)](#).
- [COVID-19 support and information for disabled people in New Zealand | Unite against COVID-19 \(covid19.govt.nz\)](#)
- The latest [COVID-19 health key messages](#) include relevant information on COVID-19 second booster availability and more free flu vaccines.

Source: **Disability Directorate Ministry of Health**

Happiness is a
direction, not a
place.

VACCINE MANDATES

From: Ministry of Health – 1 July 2022

The Government is amending the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Vaccinations) Order 2021 so that the workers who must be vaccinated against COVID-19 are those who face a higher risk of contracting and transmitting COVID-19 in the workplace than in the wider community. This means Government vaccine mandates for some health and disability sector workers are being removed.

From **11:59 pm on 7 July**, workers who are not public facing in certain healthcare environments and/or do not provide healthcare services directly to patients, will no longer be required to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Who is still mandated?

- Workers in medical centres/GP practices and pharmacies (such as receptionists, assistants) and whose role involves being within two metres or less of a health practitioner or a member of the public for a period of 15 minutes or more will be covered by the Vaccinations Order.
- Health practitioners providing health services to patients in person including doctors, nurses and dentists will continue to be covered by the Vaccinations Order.
- Workers who are employed or engaged by certified providers – which includes hospitals, rest homes, or residential disability care facilities - and who, as part of their ordinary duties, come within two metres or less of a health practitioner or a person to whom health care services are provided for a period of 15 minutes or more will continue to be covered by the Vaccinations Order.

Who is not mandated?

Workers who are **not** public facing in certain healthcare environments and/or do not provide healthcare services directly to patients, will no longer be required to be vaccinated against COVID-19. This includes back-office staff who, for example, do the accounts for a GP and groups like the police and firefighters who may be first responders in the course of their duties but providing health services is incidental to their core work.

Vaccination against COVID-19 continues to be highly recommended for all health and disability sector workers – including those in the aged care sector.

Why

- These decisions have been made because requiring vaccination is no longer considered a proportionate response to the risk now posed by COVID-19. This is a result of high vaccination rates, the changing nature and perception of risk, and a significant portion of the population now having contracted and recovered from COVID-19.
- When reviewing whether health and disability sector workers should still be required to be vaccinated against COVID-19, the Ministry of Health considered workers across the sector based on the different workplaces and the ongoing level of risk in those environments.
- The Ministry of Health considers there is still a high risk for workers who work directly with people who may have COVID-19 or people who are at high risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19 and for those who work directly in aged care or with vulnerable and/or disabled people.
- The risk level in different workplaces has been considered using these criteria:
- the nature of the work and the work setting, in terms of the risk of exposure to COVID-19 compared to being in the broader community
- the nature of the work and the work setting and the interaction with people who are at greater risk of severe disease should they contract COVID-19

covid-19vaccineupdate@health.govt.nz

There is
nothing more
uncommon
than common
sense.

Frank Lloyd Wright

PARENTAL LEAVE PAYMENTS

Source: [Employment.govt.nz](https://www.employment.govt.nz)

Parental leave payments will increase by 6.33% from Friday, 1 July 2022, to match the rise in the average weekly earnings.

The maximum weekly rate for eligible employees and self-employed parents will increase from \$621.76 to \$661.12 gross per week.

Under the Parental Leave and Employment Protection Act 1987, eligible parents are entitled to payments equal to their normal pay, up to the current maximum rate. The maximum rate is adjusted annually to account for any increase in average weekly earnings. The minimum parental leave payment rate for self-employed parents will increase this year from \$200 to \$212 gross per week, to reflect the minimum wage increase on 1 April this year.

The minimum rate for self-employed parents is equivalent to 10 hours worked per week at the adult minimum wage, which is now \$21.20 per hour.

JOINT COMMUNICATION FROM HEALTH QUALITY SAFETY COMMISSION, AND HEALTHCERT.

On 28 February 2022, the Ngā Paerewa Health and Disability Services Standard NZS 8134:2021 came into effect. The National Adverse Event Reporting is a criterion in the new standards. See: <https://www.hqsc.govt.nz/our-work/system-safety/adverse-events/national-adverse-events-reporting-policy/>

The Health Quality & Safety Commission (the Commission) is currently working in partnership with a cross section of health providers to review the National Adverse Events Reporting policy, which will see changes released by the end of 2022.

As part of this process the Commission is collaborating with the Ministry of Health to identify opportunities to streamline reporting under section 31 of the Health and Disability Services (Safety) Act 2001, the aim being to minimise the need for additional and /or duplicate reporting.

What this means for providers

While the review is underway, providers are to follow their normal section 31 reporting processes to HealthCERT.

Help and more information

If you have any queries regarding the review of the national adverse event reporting policy or adverse event management as a result of, the revised Health and Disability Services Standards, please email adverse.events@hqsc.govt.nz

Further resources can be found at

<https://www.hqsc.govt.nz/our-work/system-safety/adverse-events/>

Ngā mihi

Kirsten Lassey (she/her) | Acting Manager

HealthCERT | Quality Assurance and Safety | Health System Improvement and Innovation


If at first you
don't succeed,
skydiving is not
for you

Never under any circumstances take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.”
 Dave

EDUCATION FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

During these uncertain times with still some restrictions in place training on line has become very popular. There are a couple of organisations I am personally very impressed with.
 One being “**My HealthHub**” see below and another one I recently came across is the “**Goodfellow Unit**”. Have a look for yourself on their website and try out some of the recorded webinars and sign up for the live ones. <https://www.goodfellowunit.org/>

MORE EDUCATION LINKS

 Mobile Health has created a dedicated education website - My Health Hub - providing education for health professionals. The My Health Hub website provides health professionals with access to their fortnightly live webinar series on a wide variety of healthcare topics. These webinars are also recorded and uploaded to this website for later viewing – to claim your hours for viewing the recording of the webinar (and receive a certificate), answer the two questions at the end of the webinar, and your certificate will be generated.

Access to this website is free, with no login requirements: www.myhealthhub.co.nz
 There are a good number of webinar recordings on the website which are very appropriate for the aged care sector, eg. critical thinking skills; pressure injuries; negative pressure wounds; severe and enduring eating disorders; skin infections; person-centred approach in dementia care; obstructive sleep apnoea; therapeutic recreation; managing urinary conditions; advance care planning; preventing falls in the elderly; caring for complex older people; depression in the elderly; and a wide range of topics and research on palliative care.

If you are interested in receiving emails flyers of the upcoming live webinars for My Health Hub, please email chris@mobilehealth.co.nz and your contact details will be added to their mailing list


SOME COVID RELATED WEBSITES TO STAY INFORMED

<https://workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/employee-rights-during-covid-19.html>
<https://www.health.govt.nz/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-health-professionals/covid-19-aged-care-disability-and-hospice-care-providers#omicron>
<https://www.health.govt.nz/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-health-professionals/covid-19-aged-care-disability-and-hospice-care-providers#omicron>
https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/step-by-step_guide_for_managing_covid-19_in_your_business_or_workplace_11_mar_2022.docx

SILVER RAINBOW

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual , Trans and Intersex (LGBTI)
 Education for Caregivers**

If you are interested, please contact Julie



Julie.Watson@kahuitukaha.co.nz to find out how you can book Silver Rainbow education for your organisation.

<p style="color: #4f81bd; font-style: italic;">“Goodbyes are not forever, Goodbyes are not the end. They simply mean I’ll miss you, until we meet again.”</p> <p style="font-size: small; color: #4f81bd;">Author Unknown</p>	NEWSLETTERS BACK ISSUES
	<p>All newsletters are on my website including an alphabetical list of topics. This website is available to everybody: www.jelicatips.com No password or membership required.</p> <p>I believe in having the data available to everybody as it is important that as many people as possible get the information and that we help each other as much as possible in this very challenging sector.</p>
	HELP ME KEEPING THE DATABASE UP TO DATE!
	<p>Changing positions? New email address? Let me know if your details are changing so I can keep the database up to date. If you know anybody else who would like to receive the newsletter please let me know and I will be happy to add them to our growing readers’ base. Thank you all for your contribution each month.</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-style: italic;">Jessica</p>

Some interesting websites:

www.careassociation.co.nz; www.eldernet.co.nz, www.moh.govt.nz; www.careerforce.org.nz, www.advancecareplanning.org.nz; <http://www.bpac.org.nz/Public/admin.asp?type=publication&pub=Best>, <http://www.open.hqsc.govt.nz>; www.safefoodhandler.com; www.learnonline.health.nz; www.nutritionfoundation.org.nz/about-nznf/Healthy-Ageing; www.glasgowcomascale.org; <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/disability-services/disability-publications/disability-support-services-newsletter>; <https://worksafe.govt.nz/>; <https://covid19.govt.nz/>; <https://www.health.govt.nz/>; Julie.Watson@kahuitukaha.co.nz to find out how you can book Silver Rainbow education for your organisation.

Please note these sites are not necessarily endorsed by Jelica nor is it responsible for the contents within them.

The information contained in this publication is of a general nature and should not be relied upon as a substitute for professional advice in specific cases.

REMEMBER!

Send your feedback, suggestions and articles showcasing your local, regional and workforce activities for publication in future issues.

Text in Italics are the comment of the writer of this newsletter

This brings me to the end of this issue. I hope you enjoyed reading it and welcome any feedback you have. With your help I hope to keep this a very informative newsletter with something for everyone.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY

- I send this with due respect to, and awareness of, the “The Unsolicited Electronic Messages Act 2007”.
- My contact list consists ONLY of e-mail addresses, I do not keep any other details unless I have developed personal contact with people or organisations in regard to provision of services etc.
- E-mail addresses in my contact list are accessible to no one but me
- Jelica Ltd uses Trend antivirus protection in all aspects of e-mail sending and receiving

Signing off for this month!!

Jessica

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- If you do not wish to continue to receive emails from me, all you need to do is e-mail me and write “Unsubscribe”. I will then remove you from my contact list (though I will be sorry to lose you from my list).
- If you know of others who you think would benefit from receiving my newsletter, please pass on my details and have them sending me an email with the subscribe request.