

Board Summary: June 2021

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HPV Self Swabbing for Cervical Cancer Screening

- The Board approved in principle (subject to budget considerations) a proposal from Dr Grahame Jelley (Mahitahi Hauora Medical Director), Carissa Thompson (Mahitahi Hauora Portfolio Lead – Māmā, Pēpi & Tamariki) and a team from Te Tātai Hauora o Hine (the centre for women’s research at Victoria University) to introduce HPV self-swabbing as a pilot programme in Te Tai Tokerau later this year.
- This follows a study carried out by Te Tātai Hauora o Hine in 2020 (in partnership with Mahitahi Hauora here in Te Tai Tokerau) which showed HPV self-testing reduces barriers, including embarrassment and access, for wāhine Māori who aren’t screened enough or have never been screened.
- Through the pilot approximately 3000 wāhine Māori will have early access to this more effective test and treatment, and it will also help ensure the national programme that follows will be more acceptable, appropriate and equitable for wāhine Māori.

Budget 2021/22

- Michael Williams (Mahitahi Hauora Chief Financial Officer) presented a ‘Business as Usual’ budget for 2021/22.
- Given the changing landscape of the health reforms, with many things still unknown, the budget was approved up until September 2021.
- A budget for post September 2021, aligned with transitioning Mahitahi Hauora to the new health landscape, will be brought back to Board in September.

Governance and Independent Chair Review

- As previously communicated to our stakeholders, the Board will carry out an independent review of our Governance (Board) processes and operations, along with revisiting the role and definition of the Independent Chair Trustee
- Recommendations from that review will be shared at our Annual General Meeting at the end of the year

Board Minutes

- The Board agreed it will continue with the Board summary it has begun publishing and sharing with stakeholders, but in addition will also make available the formal minutes (taking into consideration appropriate protocols and managing sensitive information) if requested.

COVID-19 Immunisation update

- Funding for COVID-19 vaccinations have been confirmed and 16 General Practices across Te Tai Tokerau have indicated they will support vaccinating.
- There is an expectation that those practices not vaccinating will support those that are to vaccinate their enrolled populations

After Hours Review

- Mahitahi Hauora Acting CEO Jensen Webber gave an update on the development of a new model of care for After Hours services in Te Tai Tokerau, starting with a focus on the Far North of our region.
- Following a hui in Kaitiāia early this year, a working group made up of GPs, Mahitahi Hauora and Northland DHB has begun considering what a new model could look like, with the aims of:
 - Removing daytime on-call requirements for GPs and identifying virtual solutions for ‘casual’ and visitors to the area
 - Capping weekend clinics at six hours GP-led face-to-face cover, with the remaining hours being nurse led with support from virtual doctors and extensive standing orders
 - Contracting emergency consults and purchasing equipment to support demand
 - A standardised charging schedule aligning with the new model of care

MoH Transition Unit Secondment – Dr Mataroria Lyndon

- The Board were pleased to understand our Equity Lead, Dr Mataroria Lyndon, has been seconded to the Ministry of Health’s Health Reform Transition Unit for six months.
- Dr Lyndon will take to the role not only a wealth of public and primary health care knowledge and experience, but the understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing our Te Tai Tokerau whānau, community and primary health care partners.

Cyber Security

- The Board welcomed news of a programme of work in development that will strengthen Mahitahi Hauora’s cyber security
- Measures will include introducing a single network domain, implementing Multifactor Authentication, and implementing Microsoft EndPoint Manager

Ka pai Dr Grahame Jelley

Dr Grahame Jelley, Medical Director at Mahitahi, was recognised for being the well-deserved recipient of the Peter Snow Memorial Award at the National Rural Health Conference on 30 April. Dr Jelley has continued to tirelessly champion and support our rural GP community, which was noted by the Board.



June 2021

Remembering Catherine Metcalf

The Board acknowledged the sad and sudden passing of Catherine Metcalf, a loved member of Mahitahi's Mental Health and Addiction team.

aroha
tamariki Health Tama tu tama ora, tama noho tama mate
Ki te kahore he whakakitenga ka ngaro te iwi Wellbeing He waka
Caring for Northland hauora Making Northland the eke noa
healthiest place to live³