

## Submissions: Psychosocial Recovery Planning Guidelines

Submissions close **14 July** 2006.

Please use the following detachable pages or email your response to [psychosocialrecovery@moh.govt.nz](mailto:psychosocialrecovery@moh.govt.nz)

Responses in other formats will be considered separately from this consultation analysis.

You do not have to answer all the questions or provide personal information if you do not want to.

**This submission was completed by:** Suzanne Rolls

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Organisation: (if applicable) New Zealand Nurses Organisation

Position: (if applicable) Professional Nursing Advisor

### Are you submitting as:

*(Tick one box only in this section)*

- An individual (not on behalf of an organisation)
- On behalf of a group or organisation
- Other: (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

### Please indicate which sector your submission represents:

*(You may tick as many boxes as apply)*

<input type="checkbox"/> District Health Board	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency planner	<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Advisor
<input type="checkbox"/> Government agency	<input type="checkbox"/> Service provider	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual
<input type="checkbox"/> NGO	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital service	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental health service
<input type="checkbox"/> Crown entity	<input type="checkbox"/> Rest home	<input type="checkbox"/> Disability service
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other – <i>Please specify New Zealand Nurses Organisation is a professional body of nurses and a union</i>		

Please return one copy of your submission no later than 5pm on 14 July 2006.

Psychosocial Recovery Planning Guidelines  
Mental Health Directorate  
Ministry of Health  
PO Box 5013  
WELLINGTON  
[psychosocialrecovery@moh.govt.nz](mailto:psychosocialrecovery@moh.govt.nz)

All submissions will be acknowledged by the Ministry of Health and a summary will be sent to all those who request a copy. The summary will include the name of all those who made a submission, unless individuals request their name not be published.

Do you wish to receive a copy of the summary of submissions?

Yes

No

Your submission may be requested under the Official Information Act 1982. If this happens the Ministry of Health will release your submission to the person making the request. However, if you are an individual as opposed to an organisation, the Ministry will remove your personal details from the submission if you check the following box.

I do not give permission for my personal details to be released to persons under the Official Information Act 1982.

I do not give my permission for my name to be listed in the published summary of submissions.

## Consultation Questions

### Part A

1. Do you find the principles and planning style of this document useful? If so, how was it useful? If not, can you suggest an alternative? Please indicate any suggestions to improve Part A.

Yes

No

*Comments:*

The planning and principle styles are useful, there is a need to identify who are the agencies involved in the recovery phase. Many NGO will be used at all levels of the pandemic plan; there is a potential issue on the workforce capacity and resourcing this recovery phase. NZNO believes that there will be significant shortages of health care workers during a pandemic.

2. Are there key areas of evidence-based interventions and / or Pandemic Influenza issues that are not covered with respect to psychosocial recovery? If so, what issues have you identified?

Yes

No

*Comments:*

As a discussion on the effects of recovery does cover some aspects of the need for ensuring the community and health workers will be supported in the "recover from it" phase of the National Action Plan. However, there are significant areas where healthcare workers will be at risk of harm in a pandemic. Health workers own family needs will need to be addressed, if this health workers do not survive a possible pandemic as part of their work.

## **Part B**

3. Are the interests of your organisation represented adequately in this Psychosocial Recovery Planning Guidelines? If not, how could they be represented more fully?

Yes

No

*Comments:*

The New Zealand Nurses Organisation is disappointed with the Ministry of Health for not considering a representative from its various speciality groups. NZNO has noted that there is no **external** nursing representative on the advisory group. NZNO believes that the use of this guideline and its implementation will be provided mostly by nurses, especially those in mental health and a representatives from Te Runanga O Aotearoa – NZNO and the Mental Health Nurses Section – NZNO, would have been appropriate. NZNO is seeking reassurance of the MOH that such lack of representation from NZNO will not occur in the future.

**Due to lack of involvement** in the planning of these guidelines, NZNO will be sending representatives to the workshops and also sending representatives to the consultation meetings throughout the country in August and September. This feedback will be complimented with those submissions.

4. Do you think there are other organisations that are not included who should be? Who are they? Why should they be included?

Yes

No

*Comments:*

The New Zealand Nurses Organisation and representatives from:

- Te Runanga O Aotearoa – NZNO
- Mental Health Nurses Section – NZNO
- College of Emergency Nurses New Zealand - NZNO

NZNO believes that there is a significant lack of nursing representation in the advisory group. This is representation of nursing groups, not sole practitioners from a DHB for example or people with nursing background employed by MOH.

5. Is the structure of the operational elements of this plan helpful? How could it be more useful?

Yes

No

*Comments:*

6. Is the content of the operational parts of this plan helpful? How could it be more useful?

Yes

No

*Comments:*

NZNO is pleased there are good instructions for providers to plan and also there is actual examples on how the community has a whole would work together.

7. Are there any key aspects of operational planning that have not been included? If you can identify any, what are they? Do you have any solutions you could share with us?

Yes

No

*Comments:*

*Unable to determine this a this point, NZNO will ensuring in the consultation meetings that this will be identified to MOH.*

**General**

8. Do you have any suggestions for additions or deletions to the Psychosocial Recovery Planning Guidelines? Please tell us about them.

Yes

No

*Comments:*

As in all planning, there are assumptions made upon the use of technology and its availability during a pandemic. There needs to be more work on other modes of communication especially for those in quarantine. The use of radio and television is essential to communicating to communities. New Zealand recent history during power blackouts and flooding in 2006 gives evidence to the lack of email, internet or other forms of communication being of use.

NZNO will be using the other forms of consultation to give the MOH more details on the guidelines.

9. Do you have any plans or ideas for post-recovery evaluation of your organisational Psychosocial Recovery Planning Guidelines?

Yes

No

*Comments:*

NZNO has concerns on the recovery of all nurses, midwives and other health care workers in the pandemic situation. We believe that they are significantly at risk of mental harm during a pandemic. Attention to these health workers will need to be addressed. The evidence from the 1918 pandemic showed that many nurses died in the pandemic. There are potential issues of grieving of colleagues and a redesign of workplaces prior to the New Zealand health system becoming operational again.

The community at a whole will need significant attention and how we will be as a country in the recovery phase will be only realised at that point. The evidence from the 1918 pandemic showed that the community took along time to recover. NZNO believes that the aged care sector will be at serious risk during a pandemic and families will need to be given support at that time.

10. Are there any other comments you wish to make?

Yes

No

*Comments:*

NZNO is looking forward to a closer relationship with the MOH on these guidelines and believes that with working together on this and during a pandemic we will be successful.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this document.

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this submission.**