



**Pacific Nurses Section, NZNO quarterley news bulletin
Friday 27 August 2021**

Section message

To be added by Section if required

Consultation

NZNO regularly seeks members input on a range of documents up for consultation. The listing is regularly updated and full information [can be found here](#)

Review of Surrogacy

NZNO warmly invites your contribution to a review of surrogacy in Aotearoa New Zealand. This is an opportunity to recommend changes that will meet the needs and expectations of New Zealanders and protect the rights and interests of people involved in surrogacy arrangements, including children born as a result of a surrogacy arrangement, surrogates and intended parents.

Pancreatic Cancer Quality Performance Indicators

NZNO invites you to provide feedback on a set of seventeen potential quality performance indicators (QPIs) for pancreatic cancer.

Pacific nurses in NZ

Maori, Pacific and nursing programmes at Whitireia link up

The nursing programmes at Whitireia have created a framework to ensure equity ... "Nurse education is a hallmark programme at Whitireia. ... The New Zealand Diploma in Enrolled Nursing and the Bachelor of Nursing sits within the ... [Read more](#)

Māori and Pasifika nursing students trained to help their communities get vaccinated against Covid-19

Every time Sala Eastwood hears about the number of healthcare inequities Pacific people in New Zealand face, it drives her to be part of the solution. [Read more](#)

CM Health Staff Profile: Fanau Ola nurse case manager Matangaro Rima shares her passion for nursing and her culture

Fanau Ola nurse case manager and proud Cook Islander, Matangaro Rima, talks about her found passion for nursing and how weaving culture and faith into her life is essential.

[Read more](#)

Growing Pasifika Health Champions

Dr Ashley Bloomfield was on the lineup at Le Va's Le Tautua Leadership Programme last week, supporting Pasifika leaders to develop their unique leadership perspectives and enhance their management skills. Sharing his insights with the cohort of 16 participants, Director General of Health Dr Bloomfield said: "People will trust us if we lead with authenticity, kindness, humility and compassion". [Read more](#)

Pasifika health in NZ

Former Tongan rugby star supporting Pasifika with disabilities

A former Tongan professional international rugby player is breaking down cultural barriers, by helping to empower the Christchurch Pasifika Community, changing perceptions of disability. [Read more](#)

Health system systemically racist towards Pasifika - report

A damning new report out by New Zealand's Health Quality and Safety Commission has called the healthcare system's failure by Pasifika "a national shame".

[Read more](#)

Health: Land of the long, white inequity

Friday's first mass vaccination event initially suffered from poor communication with the intended communities. Dr Collin Tukuitonga says that is a problem repeated time and again for Pacific people, who continue to suffer poor health statistics [Read more](#)

Spotlight on abuse of Pacific people: 'There are added layers of complexity'

The first-ever investigation into abuse in care of Pacific people in this country opens today.

[Read more](#)

NZ Govt say they're trying to fix dire Pasifika housing

A Samoan family of 15 living in a four-bedroom Kainga Ora, New Zealand's state housing agency) suffered severe health issues due to their living conditions. [Read more](#)

Socio-economic hardship leading to premature deaths in South Auckland - experts

Poverty, deprivation and poor access to healthcare are driving premature deaths in south Auckland, experts say.

And recently released figures show it has the worst rates in the Auckland region.

[Read more](#)

'We would have caught it earlier': Clare Hewitt encourages Pacific Island and Māori to speak up about cancer

Clare Hewitt is encouraging Pacific people to speak openly about cancer after losing her husband to the illness earlier this year. [Read more](#)

Changing the narrative of at risk-Pasifika youth, one story at a time

A south Auckland man who turned his life around is on a mission to share similar stories of social workers doing amazing work in the community. [Read more](#)

'Heartbreaking': Two-thirds of Pacific kids have tooth decay by age 5

Pacific kids are twice as likely to have tooth decay at age 5 than non-Māori, non-Pacific kids, a figure a dentist says is "heartbreaking". [Read more](#)

New study aimed at getting the best start for Pasifika children | RNZ News

A group of Pacific experts across a range of disciplines focused on children's health and development are motivated to find appropriate strategies to combat the inequities and failings for Pacific children and their families. [Read more](#)

Pasifika Researchers Collaborate In First Cross-sectoral Pacific Child Wellbeing Study

The team of experienced researchers from various disciplines and institutions throughout New Zealand, include Dr Rae Si'ilata, Director of Va'atele [Read more](#)

More research detailing barriers to healthcare for Māori and Pasifika

For Māori, experiencing inequities in the health system is a well proven and researched issue. [Read more](#)

Research translated into Pacific languages brings knowledge back to its origin

For some Pacific communities, an academic paper written in English is only as useful as how well it can fuel a fire.

But that's about to change.

... A new online journal, led by Waikato University academics, aims to give the power back to those communities by publishing findings in a range of different Pacific languages and dialects. [Read more](#)

Morbidity and mortality after recognition of macroalbuminuria in Pasifika people with type 2 diabetes in a primary health-care practice.

Cooke Tian, McCready Fifita, Doherty Glenn, Cundy Tim (2021)

Journal of Primary Health Care 13, 132-138.

INTRODUCTION: Macroalbuminuria in people with type 2 diabetes is common among Pasifika peoples and is associated with end-stage kidney disease and major cardiovascular disease.

AIM: In a primary care practice catering for Pasifika people, to determine the time after first recognition of macroalbuminuria to the occurrence of major cardiovascular and renal events, and to examine the relationship with retinopathy status. [Read more](#)

The articles below are not freely available but may be sourced via the NZNO library or a DHB or educational institution

Incidence, severity and clinical manifestations of juvenile dermatomyositis among Maori and Pacific Island compared to European children.

Concannon, A. and Han, D.Y. (2021),

J Paediatr Child Health. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jpc.15595>

To describe the incidence, demographics, diagnostic clinical manifestations and long-term outcomes of juvenile dermatomyositis (JDM) in Maori and Pacific Island compared to European children.

Structured review of primary interventions to reduce group A streptococcal infections, acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease.

Bennett, J., Rentta, N., Leung, W., Anderson, A., Oliver, J., Wyber, R., Harwod, M., Webb, R., Malcom, J. and Baker, M.G. (2021),

J Paediatr Child Health, 57: 797-802. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jpc.15514>

Rheumatic heart disease (RHD) is a large, preventable, global public health burden. In New Zealand (NZ), acute rheumatic fever (ARF) and RHD rates are highest for Māori and Pacific children. This structured review explores the evidence for primary prevention interventions to diagnose and effectively treat group A Streptococcus (GAS) pharyngitis and skin infections to reduce rates of ARF and RHD. Medline, EMBASE and Scopus databases were searched as well as other electronic publications. Included were 50 publications from 1980 onwards. This review has identified that there is little available evidence for effective primary prevention strategies to reduce ARF rates in NZ. However, two primary intervention strategies that should be considered by communities at high-risk of ARF are: the use of school-based clinics to identify and treat GAS pharyngitis and GAS skin infections; and

intramuscular benzathine penicillin G with lignocaine analgesia in children who present with a GAS positive throat.

Early diagnosis of acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease as part of a secondary prevention strategy: Narrative review.

Bennett, J., Rentta, N.N., Leung, W., Atkinson, J., Wilson, N., Webb, R. and Baker, M.G. (2021),

J Paediatr Child Health. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jpc.15664>

Acute rheumatic fever (ARF) and its sequela rheumatic heart disease (RHD) remain significant causes of morbidity and mortality. In New Zealand, ARF almost exclusively affects Indigenous Māori and Pacific children. This narrative review aims to present secondary interventions to improve early and accurate diagnosis of ARF and RHD, in order to minimise disease progression in New Zealand. Medline, EMBASE and Scopus databases were searched as well as other electronic publications. Included were 56 publications from 1980 onwards. Diagnosing ARF and RHD as early as possible is central to reducing disease progression. Recent identification of specific ARF biomarkers offer the opportunity to aid initial diagnosis and portable echocardiography has the potential to detect undiagnosed RHD in high-risk areas. However, further research into the benefits and risks to children with subclinical RHD is necessary, as well as an economic evaluation.

Health in the Pacific – general

Rotary/UNICEF target Pacific children in new vaccine campaign

A new vaccination campaign in the Pacific is targeting 100,000 children across nine countries.

And no it's not against Covid-19. [Read more](#)

Proactive information campaigns stopping spread of vaccine misinformation, minister says

Health officials in Fiji are not only battling the spread of Covid-19 throughout their communities, but also the spread of anti-vaccination sentiment by community leaders and social media. [Read more](#)

Niuean hepatitis figures 'amazing'

A world first in efforts to eliminate hepatitis has left the project's Dunedin director delighted. Global Health New Zealand (GHNZ) has announced Niue's Ministry of Social Services Health Department has rapid tested 90% of those over 18 for viral hepatitis, as part of the first Pacific Cure-a-Country elimination project. [Read more](#)

New report on a 'game-changing project funded by NZ'

Before COVID- 19, the Pacific was already in crisis. Diabetes, heart disease, and obesity are ravaging the region, all due to what people eat. The numbers are shocking: three Fijians a day undergo diabetes-related amputation, 90 per cent of Tongans are obese, and 40 per cent of the Pacific's population has been diagnosed with a non-communicable disease (NCD). In fact, NCDs account for 75 per cent of all deaths in the Pacific. [Read more](#)

Covid-19

Covid-19: Māori and Pacific people more likely to be hospitalised – and younger

Māori and Pacific people are at the greatest risk of needing hospitalisation due to Covid-19 in New Zealand – and at much younger ages than the rest of the population. [Read more](#)

Māori and Pacific health groups worried by low vaccination rates

Months into the vaccine rollout, the number of Māori and Pacific people vaccinated against Covid-19 remains well down on the rest of the population. [Read more](#)

Covid-19: Low vaccine uptake makes Delta more dangerous for Pasifika and Māori – expert

The Minister for Pacific Peoples is calling on the Pasifika community to make determined and deliberate plans to get vaccinated after [six new Delta Covid-19 cases](#) were announced on Wednesday. [Read more](#)

New Pasifika health-line for vaccinations inundated with calls

Hundreds of Pasifika are booking their vaccinations through a new health-line number. [Read more](#)

Pacific contacts outreach seeking people missed by health system

Despite a disconnect between the public health system and the Pacific community, vital ground work is underway to reach contacts in the Covid-19 outbreak who the system has missed. [Read more](#)

Pacific health advocate says self-isolating for church close contacts difficult

A health advocate says he expects more Covid-19 cases related to the Samoan church in Māngere this week and that self-isolating is a major problem for close contacts. [Read more](#)

Covid-19: Over 50 percent of outbreak cases are Pasifika

A community leader questions why officials haven't heeded to calls for more Pacific-led organisations to lead their own vaccination drives. [Read more](#)

Health experts say the Government has failed to protect Māori and Pasifika from the ...

Health experts say they warned the government Māori and Pasifika vaccination rates needed to be prioritised but the Ministry of Health failed to respond. Now, those at-risk communities are even more vulnerable to the highly contagious Delta variant of Covid-19. [Read more](#)

'Pasifika families need vaccine priority' - RACS

Pasifika families need to take priority for vaccination, given that Pasifika people make up 70 percent of cases of the current outbreak of Covid-19 in New Zealand, says Mr Kiki Maoate, a Paediatric surgeon and Chair of the Pacific Medical Association Group [Read more](#)

Fears Covid-19 outbreak to reverse economic position of Pacific communities

A Pacific health and social service provider in Auckland fears the city's fifth lockdown will push families back into hardship. [Read more](#)

Lockdowns or vaccines? 3 Pacific nations try diverging paths

Cheryl Simpson was supposed to be celebrating her 60th birthday over lunch with friends but instead found herself confined to her Auckland home. [Read more](#)

Cook Islands achieves over 90 percent vaccination coverage

The Cook Islands government has vaccinated 96.7 percent of its eligible population against Covid-19. [Read more](#)

New Zealand's Support For Fiji's COVID-19 Response Continues With Vaccine Delivery ...

New Zealand is also funding the recruitment of 190 Fiji graduate nurses, for a three month period, to provide surge capacity across the health system ... [Read more](#)

NZ partners with TISI Sangam to provide 190 graduate and retired nurses to the Health Ministry

New Zealand's High Commissioner to Fiji Jonathan Curr welcomed the new partnership forged to support the secondment of nurses into the Ministry ... [Read more](#)

Samoa launches door-to-door covid vax-drive

The Samoa government is launching a country-wide door-to-door mass vaccination campaign for Covid-19 today. [Read more](#)

Journals and reports

Pacific Health Review

Issue 29

This issue covers a range of topics regarding Pacific people living in Aotearoa NZ, including declining alcohol consumption, the inequity of access to contraception for women, and barriers to health care access for Pacific communities. [Read more](#)

Bula Sautu – A window on quality 2021: Pacific health in the year of COVID-19.

Health Quality & Safety Commission. 2021.

Wellington: Health Quality & Safety Commission.

Bula Sautu uses national data to show the complex contributing factors that impact on health for Pacific peoples, from maternity to end of life, using a life-course approach. The report brings together a diverse range of Pacific health and equity experts to share their views of how effectively (or ineffectively) the health system is performing for Pacific peoples. Bula Sautu shows us some of the worst inequities in our health care system (see box on right) but also profiles providers, communities and individuals responding creatively, brilliantly and vibrantly within the constraints imposed upon them. The report shows how our mainstream health system is designed neither for nor with Pacific peoples and is failing to meet Pacific needs. It reveals our systems of data and analysis systematically occlude, miss and misunderstand Pacific peoples and their complexity so we at present cannot fully understand the complete nature of these inequities. [Read more](#)

The above bulletin has been compiled by Linda Stopforth, SNIPS, on behalf of Pacific Nurses Section, NZNO.

It is provided quarterly on the last Friday of February, May, August, November and contains an overview of news items, articles and research papers of interest to the Section members. All links are current at the time of being compiled and distributed.

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