



Pacific Nurses Section, NZNO quarterly news bulletin Friday 28 February 2020

Section message

Warm greetings from the Pacific languages spoken in Aotearoa!

Kia Ora, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava, Kia orana, Fakaalofa atu ki a mutolu oti, Bula vi naka, Taloha ni, Kam na mauri, Namaste, Aloha mai, Iorana, Alofa atu, Halo olketa, Noa 'ia 'e mauri, Koe kia, Malo le kataki, Talofa, Kulo malulo, Kaoha nui, Ali'i, Dada namona, Kaselhia Maign, bonjour and hello!

Welcome to our February Pacific Nursing Section (PNS) newsletter for 2020. Hope you and your families are well and enjoying the beginning of 2020 and onwards.

The PNS committee held its first meeting for 2020 in Auckland on February 14th. At this meeting, the committee and observers had the opportunity to hear Ana Liki from Tausi Soifua Nurses and Samoa Health Mission representative presented on the Samoa Measle experience and lessons learned. At the end, Sipaia Kupa on behalf of PNS thanked Ana Liki and her Team for her presentation and acknowledged the great work they did in Samoa to help with the Measles Crisis.

Discussions included College & Section budgets which went to BOD so we can expect an update about the budget and funding including the proposal for special additional funding within a couple of weeks. Malo Kate for all your support.

The PNS proposed the need for a Pacific Nursing Strategic action plan within the NZNO strategy for nursing document. A consultation regarding this document will roll out in a couple of months, look out for it and have your say.

Lastly PNS members sends their love and condolences to Violani 'Ilolahia Wills at the loss of his beloved husband Mr Lloyd Wills. RIL Lloyd and God Bless you Lani, fanau and famili.

Each association continue with their projects regarding workforce development and health promotions in the communities. Keep up the great work everyone!

The PNS welcomes new members, see link below. Please note it is free to become PNS member as long as you a NZNO financial member. Contact your representative on the committee.



PNS Executive members at its February Meeting from L to R

Joe Glassie Rasmussen (observer from Cook Island Nursing Association) Mesepa Channing (Tausi Soifua Samoa Nurses), Liliane Valoa (Cook Island Nurses). Taiivao Siniva Cruickshank (Tausi Soifua Nurses), Eseta Finau (Tongan Nurses Association), Kate Weston – Professional Nurse Advisor NZNO, Saunima’a Josephine Samuelu (Co-opted Secretary PNS), Anne Strickland (Niue Nurses Association), Aiva Kasimausi (Observer from Niue Nurses)

Apology from Violani 'Ilohiva Wills (TNA) and Abel Smith (FNA)



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](#)

Draft Cannabis Legislation and Control Bill

NZNO is seeking informal feedback on the first draft Cannabis Legalisation and Control Bill This is a first draft which the Government has published at this point to ensure that New Zealanders are informed about the direction being taken and the decisions that have been made to date. [Read more](#)

Residential Tenancies Amendment Bill

NZNO welcomes your feedback on this bill which makes a range of changes to make the Residential Tenancies Act 1986 fit for modern renting situations in New Zealand. NZNO is of the view that addressing the availability, affordability, quality, and security of rental housing is fundamental to improving population health and equity in Aotearoa New Zealand.

[Read more](#)

Pasifika Health in NZ

GPS2020: Vision beyond boundaries

The fourth national conference to address the health and wellbeing concerns of New Zealand's Pasifika youth and families will be held in Auckland, April 6 - 8, with around 300 professionals from the youth, health and social sectors in attendance. [Read more](#)

Auckland's Pacific community celebrates new drivers

More than 100 people from Auckland's Pacific community have achieved their goal of gaining a driver's licence - free of charge. [Read more](#)

Big Science: Are Pacific people predisposed to gout?

As part of five-part series on major new Kiwi research projects, science reporter Jamie Morton speaks to an Otago University team exploring a link between metabolic disease and genetic variants in Pacific people.

Higher rates of gout among Pacific people could lie in a genetic predisposition stretching back thousands of years – something that could clear up harsh stigma and improve healthcare. [Read more](#)

Treasuring Our Older Adults

It is part of our cultures to take care of and treasure our matua (elders). But as many as one in 10 elderly people in New Zealand experience some kind of elder abuse. Malia Hamani from TOA - Treasure Older Adults - Pacific reveals how to prevent elder abuse and neglect by sharing the no-blame approach its Pacific workers adopt. The approach ensures the safety and care of our older adults, their carers, and the wider aiga (family) which leads to healthy environments for strong Pacific families [Read more](#)

Le Va and Collaborations for Action

Le Va hosted the Growing Pasifika Solutions Satellite Seminar in collaboration with the Drua Pasifika Addictions Network to share knowledge, innovative methods in effective prevention and treatment intervention strategies. pre-event to Le Va's national Growing Pacific Solutions bi-annual conference, GPS2020. An effective platform to showcase innovative and integrated solutions that meet the needs of our Pasifika families. LAUMATA LAUANO spoke with Epenesa Olo, the Ministry of Health's Principal Advisor, Child & Youth Mental Health & Addictions and Le Va's chief executive Dr Monique Faleafa. [Read more](#)

Pasifika-led theatre tackles mental health issues

A young Pasifika theatre director is hoping to spark conversations about taboo subjects like mental health and suicide in New Zealand's Pacific community. [Read more](#)

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

Ethnic inequities in life expectancy attributable to smoking

Michael Walsh, Karen Wright. NZMJ

Vol 133 No 1509: 7 February 2020

There are large and persistent inequities in mortality and life expectancy among Māori and Pacific when compared with non-Māori/non-Pacific people, in New Zealand.

Community-acquired invasive *Staphylococcus aureus*: Uncovering disparities and the burden of disease in Auckland children. Vogel, A.M.... et al. (2020), J Paediatr Child Health, 56: 244-251. doi:[10.1111/jpc.14573](https://doi.org/10.1111/jpc.14573)

Aim

Staphylococcus aureus (SA) causes serious invasive disease in children. Large studies have measured the incidence of SA bacteraemia, but there is less information on the total burden of community-acquired invasive SA (iSA) in children.

Conclusions

Studies investigating SA bacteraemia alone significantly underestimate the total burden of iSA disease. There are marked ethnic and socio-economic disparities in iSA disease among Auckland children. Pacific infants are at the highest risk.

Nursing in the Pacific

Pacific nursing shortage a health threat

But while threats like the measles, dengue fever and the coronavirus were on the agenda, the region's chronic shortage of **nurses** was also identified ... [Read more](#)

Back home from heart of Samoa's deadly measles outbreak, nurse shares her story

Three days after she said yes, senior nurse Kailua Faafoi was walking off a plane in Samoa, carrying her vaccination papers, and wondering what she ... [Read more](#)

Northland-based nurse Tafale Maddren in Samoa escapes worst of measles outbreak

One of the first things Tafale Maddren made sure when she visited her family in Samoa was to ensure the whole village was vaccinated against ... [Read more](#)

Health in the Pacific – general

Australia's de-emphasis on Pacific health a mistake - aid group

An aid group is describing the Australian government's change of focus on Pacific aid as a "strategic misstep". [Read more](#)

Health in the Pacific – POLYNESIA

Tongan woman to be deported after being paralysed during surgery in NZ

A Tongan woman who became paralysed after undergoing surgery in New Zealand is to be deported, despite her doctor saying sending her back to Tonga would be a death sentence. [Read more](#)

Health in the Pacific – MELANESIA

Otago global health institute invests in research with Fiji and East Timor

The Otago Global Health Institute, a flagship research centre of the University of Otago, is investing in new research initiatives in collaboration with the Fiji National University and the National University of East Timor to help address health problems in these countries. [Read more](#)

Fiji initiates Action Plan to curb violence against women

Violence against women and girls has **health** consequences that can be immediate and acute, ... (DPO), **faith-based** organisations, **health-care** service providers, nongovernmental organisations, and other civil society organisations [Read more](#)

New head for PNG's embattled health department

A new appointment has been made to Papua New Guinea's embattled health department, after the current health secretary's contract expired this week. [Read more](#)

New Caledonia warns of dengue outbreak risk

New Caledonians are being urged to take utmost care so as not to trigger another dengue type 2 epidemic. [Read more](#)

PNG's Department of Health under investigation

Papua New Guinea's Police Commissioner, David Manning, has launched a criminal investigation into the Department of Health.

[Read more](#)

The item below is not available full text but may be sourced via a DHB library through databases like CINAHL or Proquest, or through the NZNO library service

Factors influencing self-management behaviours among patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus in the Solomon Islands.

Bezo, BH, Huang, Y-T, Lin, C-C. *J Clin*

Nurs. 2019; 00: 1– 11. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.15139>

Aims and objectives

This study aims to explore the current state of self-management behaviours among persons with type 2 diabetes mellitus in the Solomon Islands and to discuss the factors influencing these behaviours.

Background

The prevalence of diabetes and diabetes complications is increasing in the Solomon Islands. However, the effective diabetes prevention and care are not provided in the country.

Cause-specific neonatal morbidity and mortality in the Solomon Islands: An assessment of data from four hospitals over a three-year period.

Tosif, S., Jatobatu, A., Maepioh, A.,

Subhi, R., Francis, K.L. and Duke, T. (2020), *J Paediatr Child Health*. doi:[10.1111/jpc.14699](https://doi.org/10.1111/jpc.14699)

Data on stillbirths and neonatal morbidity and mortality in low-middle income Pacific Island Nations such as Solomon Islands is limited, partly due to weak health information systems. We describe the perinatal mortality and clinical factors associated with poor newborn outcomes at four hospitals in Solomon Islands.

Health in the Pacific – MICRONESIA

Period poverty: Salvation Army project to help women living in the Pacific Islands

Women who struggle with period poverty in the Pacific will soon have assistance from a New Zealand project. [Read more](#)

Dengue fever outbreak claims two more lives in the Marshall Islands

Majuro - Two Marshall Islanders died from dengue fever this week at Majuro hospital emphasizing the severity of the outbreak now in its eighth month. [Read more](#)

Measles

Tragedy in paradise: How Samoa is faring after the measles epidemic

Avi Duckor-Jones reports on how the people of Samoa are responding to an epidemic that has claimed more than 80 young lives.... [Read more](#)

Six doctors in one family: Siblings' efforts in Samoa measles crises

When Sarah Leilua volunteered to return to her native Samoa to help in the fight against the measles outbreak, she never expected to be referring patients to her brothers and sisters, who were volunteering in unison. [Read more](#)

Government inaction left door open to measles outbreak: Ministry of Health report

Measles outbreaks that put New Zealand children in intensive care before likely spreading to Samoa where children died could have been avoided if the Government heeded expert advice and closed immunity gaps fuelled by a racist health system.

[Read more](#)

Physiotherapy part of the recovery for Samoa's measles patients

For Oka Sanerivi, getting to go Samoa to treat patients in the midst of a measles epidemic saw him experience both heartbreak and elation. [Read more](#)

Samoa measles epidemic takes toll on mental health

Samoa's measles epidemic has taken a severe toll on people's mental health, says a team providing support to affected families. [Read more](#)

No amnesty for parents with unvaccinated kids - Samoa PM

Samoa's prime minister has ruled out an amnesty for parents whose children are yet to be fully vaccinated for measles. [Read more](#)

Samoa had international health warnings before measles crisis

Samoa was warned repeatedly to improve measles vaccination rates, several months before the arrival of a deadly epidemic that has [killed 77 people](#) and sickened more than 5000.

[Read more](#)

Samoa parents wrongly charged for children's immunisation records

Samoa's health ministry says it did not authorise a \$US14 fee that was being charged for immunisation records needed to enrol children in schools. [Read more](#)

Call for national inquiry into Samoa's measles epidemic

Calls are emerging in Samoa for a national inquiry into how the measles epidemic spread so quickly across the country. [Read more](#)

Samoa to make measles vaccination compulsory

From next month, it will be compulsory for every child in Samoa to be vaccinated against measles when they reach the eligible age of six months. [Read more](#)

Samoa measles outbreak: New Zealand gives \$1m for preventive action in Pacific

The New Zealand Government has committed to helping the Pacific in its measles vaccination and prevention efforts.

Samoa measles grief vital to avoid future complacency - public health expert

A professor of medicine says New Zealand's public health responsibilities in the Pacific need to be reviewed in light of the appallingly high measles mortality rate in Samoa. [Read more](#)

New Zealand items – general

Fewer Kiwis will die of bowel cancer if new screening tool introduced - study

Introducing flexible sigmoidoscopy screening into the national bowel screening programme would significantly reduce both the incidence and mortality of bowel cancer in New Zealand, new University of Otago research reveals. [Read more](#)

Māori Women 3 Times More Likely to Die of Cervical Cancer

“Depth of Inequity is Unacceptable & Unethical”

The death rates of Māori women to cancer is a national disgrace – Māori are three times likely to die than non-Māori. [Read more](#)

Journals

Welcome to Issue 27 of Pacific Health Review.

In this issue, a paper looking at suicide mortality among Pacific peoples in New Zealand between 1996 and 2013 demonstrates clear ethnic disparities. The publication highlights the need for ongoing research on suicide mortality among this population to inform practice in the space of Pacific suicide prevention. [Read more](#)

Online resources – general

HealthEd resources

Health Ed is a catalogue of **free** health resources brought to you by the Health Promotion Agency (HPA) and the Ministry of Health.

The public health resources on this website support healthier New Zealand communities. These resources will help you to make informed decisions for yourself and those you care about.

HealthEd resources are available in a number of Pacific languages. [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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Linda Stopforth, BA, Dip Bus; NZLSC, RLIANZA

PO Box 315 WELLINGTON 6140

PH: 04-383-6931 or 021-107-2455

email: stop4th@xtra.co.nz



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