



Pacific Nurses Section, NZNO quarterly news bulletin Friday 28 May 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](#)

Drug and Substance Checking legislation

NZNO welcomes your feedback on a bill which aims to minimise drug and substance harm by allowing drug and substance checking services to operate legally in New Zealand.

Education and Training Amendment Bill

NZNO welcomes your feedback on proposed amendments to the Education and Training Act (2020).

Pacific nurses in NZ

Govt announces \$6m for Māori, Pasifika midwifery students

A new \$6 million initiative to attract and retain more “under-represented” Māori and Pasifika midwives has been launched by the Government. [Read more](#)

Pasifika health in NZ

Antidepressants at all-time high: Māori, Pasifika, Asians left behind

On average, other ethnicities are given antidepressants at eight times the rate of Māori, 34 times the rate of Pasifika and 16 times the rate of Asians. [Read more](#)

'There's no shame': Pasifika mums urged to get help for depression

Pacific women in New Zealand have the highest rates of antenatal and postnatal depression, yet low numbers get help. Sela Jane Hopgood asks why. [Read more](#)

Pasifika journalist speaks out on having perinatal depression: 'It got so bad'

First Person - Pasifika journalist Sela Jane Hopgood was sceptical when offered medication for perinatal depression, but, she writes, saying yes saved her life. [Read more](#)

Troubling statistics lead to action - Ministry for Pacific Peoples

New Zealand's perplexing mental health statistics have inspired Kau Tulā Northern representative Leorida Peters to take action, educate and raise awareness about the growing area of concern. [Read more](#)

Enhancing Resilience Of Pacific Youth In South Auckland

Foundation North has recently granted \$98,100 to The Tongan Health Society to support its wellbeing work with young Pacific people in Auckland. [Read more](#)

Poverty, poor housing contributes to increase in rheumatic fever in Wellington

Substandard housing in the Wellington region is being blamed for a spike in rheumatic fever, a preventable disease common in the developing world but almost eliminated from developed countries like New Zealand. [Read more](#)

Pasifika urged to take up swimming lessons after drowning stats

A Samoan-New Zealand lifeguard is encouraging Pasifika to take up swimming lessons in the wake of a report highlighting their over-representation in drowning statistics. [Read more](#)

Calls for urgency to address 'avalanche of diabetes' among Pacific community

The enthusiasm the Government has shown to combat the Covid-19 pandemic is needed to fight the current diabetes crisis, a senior Pacific doctor says. [Read more](#)

Type-2 Diabetes could hit quarter of NZ's Pacific population

A quarter of Pacific people in New Zealand are on track to become Type-2 diabetics by 2040 [Read more](#)

New Multi-language Fact Sheets Support Safer Use Of Empagliflozin

Health Navigator NZ has created new, plain language fact sheets that provide easy to understand information about the type 2 diabetes medicine Empagliflozin. [Read more](#)

Better podiatry services can avoid diabetes-related amputations and save lives

Around 600 amputations could be avoided in New Zealand each year if better foot screening and podiatry services were made available for everyone with type 2 diabetes, a recent report- shows. [Read more](#)

Smokefree Action Plan Needed For Underserved Communities

Tala Pasifika Director, Lealailepule Edward Cowley says "I am so pleased to see the Government have delivered on their Manifesto promise to prioritise the development of this plan because smoking rates for Pacific people are still too high and the status quo has not been able to reduce our smoking rates significantly to reach the 2025 goal" [Read more](#)

Toloa Tertiary Scholar aims to positively impact Pacific health

As a young woman of Pacific descent there was no doubt in Zanetta Leoho Éonani Laupele Toomata's mind she wanted to be part of research that impacted and helped improve the health of the Pacific community. [Read more](#)

Pasifika scholarship winners aim to address inequality in NZ health system

Four Pacific health students with a passion for social justice are the recipients of the inaugural Leaupepe Elisapeta (Peta) Karalus Scholarship at Wintec, Hamilton. [Read more](#)

Pacific health leaders expect benefits from health overhaul

Pacific health leaders expect a radical overhaul of New Zealand's health system to bring benefits for people of Pacific heritage. [Read more](#)

Using 'food havens' to reduce high obesity rates in low socioeconomic neighbourhoods

A new concept in food environments, the food haven, developed by AUT researchers at the Child and Youth Health Research Centre, aims to reduce high obesity rates among Māori and Pacific peoples. [Read more](#)

Pasifika Beatz Helping Kids Connect And Learn Pacific Languages Through Music

Kids in Aotearoa can move to the beat of their own drum thanks to a collaboration between Whānau Āwhina Plunket, local musicians Loopy Tunes and the Ministry for Pacific Peoples. [Read more](#)

Pacific language video series: Busting the myths around stroke

A Pacific language video series by the Auckland University of Technology is highlighting key facts around stroke, in an attempt to bust the myths around this neurological disease.

[Read more](#)

Select Auckland clinics to offer HPV self-tests for Māori, Pasifika women from June

Māori and Pasifika Aucklanders will be able to self-test for human papillomavirus (HPV) at a select number of health clinics from June. [Read more](#)

Healthier Together: Co-design of a culturally tailored childhood obesity community prevention program for Māori & Pacific Islander children and families.

Hardt, J, Canfell, OJ, Walker, JL, et al.

Health Promot J Austral. 2021; 32: 143– 154. <https://doi.org/10.1002/hpja.438>

Children of Māori & Pacific Islander descent living in Australia have a greater prevalence of overweight/obesity and an increased risk of adverse health outcomes. This study aimed to co-design Healthier Together, a community-based, childhood overweight/obesity prevention program tailored to Māori & Pacific Islander cultures. [Read more](#)

Nursing in the Pacific

Nurses answer the call

On International Nurses' Day today, Cook Islands health minister has paid tribute to nurses around the world, including our own, as well as Cook Islander Louisa Akavi, who has been missing for seven years since her kidnapping in 2013. [Read more](#)

Health in the Pacific – general

Developing principles of social change as a result of a Pasifika Youth Empowerment Program: A qualitative study.

Firestone, R, Matheson, A, Firestone, J, et al.

Health Promot J Austral. 2020; 00: 1– 9. <https://doi.org/10.1002/hpja.395>

Empowerment is a concept over-used in health promotion, yet it is an important process that can be used in developing the capacity and capability of young people for creating social change to improve healthier lives. [Read more](#)

Healthier Together: Co-design of a culturally tailored childhood obesity community prevention program for Māori & Pacific Islander children and families.

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Health in the Pacific – POLYNESIA

Tonga's high rates of teenage pregnancy addressed in new report

Strengthening sexual and reproductive health education in Tonga as well as promoting gender equality are some of the recommendations outlined in a new report. [Read more](#)

Dengue outbreak coming under control says Cook Islands' government

The number of confirmed cases of dengue in the Cook Islands is declining. [Read more](#)

Health in the Pacific – MELANESIA

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

A qualitative study of patient perspectives of diabetes and diabetic retinopathy services in Vanuatu.

'Ofanoa, M, Aitip, B, Ram, K, et al.

Health Promot J Austral. 2021; 00: 1– 8. <https://doi.org/10.1002/hpja.484>

Diabetes mellitus is an increasing global health problem, particularly in Vanuatu, where it poses a major health burden. There is paucity of information on how patients in Vanuatu perceive diabetes, diabetic retinopathy, access to services and management, health promotion and intervention services to alleviate the issues. This study aimed to explore the perceptions of diabetic patients in Vanuatu on these issues, to help inform the design of health promotion materials and community activities to empower people to self-manage and shape diabetic services that are integrated and people-centred.

Covid-19

K'aute Pasifika joins Waikato DHB in Covid-19 vaccination campaign

A team from K'aute Pasifika Trust is now based at the Te Rapa COVID-19 Vaccination Centre providing vaccinations to Group 2 people in their Pacific community. [Read more](#)

Covid-19: Sol3 Mio star and church leaders encourage community to get vaccinated

Sol3 Mio opera star Pene Pati and a group of church leaders spoke out to encourage the Pasifika community to get the Covid-19 vaccine as they received their jabs. [Read more](#)

Churches credited with helping to get more Pasifika people vaccinated against Covid-19

Churches are being credited with playing a key part in encouraging more Pasifika people to be vaccinated against Covid-19. [Read more](#)

Covid-19 vaccine: Pacific community turns up at Capital and Coast for jab

Free parking right outside, a warm welcome at the door, hugs, bright shirts in Pasifika prints - Capital and Coast District Health Board is on a charm offensive to combat any vaccine reluctance among the Pacific community. [Read more](#)

Covid-19: Cook Islands vaccine roll-out starting next week, Niue in June, with doses from NZ

Covid-19 vaccines from New Zealand will be rolled out in the Cook Islands from next week and as early as June for Niue, the Government has confirmed. [Read more](#)

Covid-19: Cook Islanders urged to overcome vaccine fears 'for their neighbours'

Cook Islanders are being urged to overcome any fears they have about [the Covid-19 vaccine](#), with a community leader saying everyone has a responsibility to make the roll-out a success. [Read more](#)

All-of-community by all-of-government: reaching Pacific people in Aotearoa New Zealand during the COVID-19 pandemic | OPEN ACCESS

Julia Ioane, Teuila Percival, Winnie Laban, Ian Lambie

NZ Medical Journal Vol 134 No 1533: 16 April 2021

VIEWPOINT

Pandemics affect everyone in society; however, their impact differs across individuals and groups and is heavily influenced by the social, economic and political determinants of health.

[Read more](#)

Integrated social protection and COVID-19: rethinking Pacific community responses in Aotearoa,

Steven Ratuva, Yvonne Crichton-Hill, Tara Ross, Arindam Basu, Patrick Vakaoti & Rosemarie Martin-Neuning (2021)

Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand, 51:sup1, S37-

S54, DOI: [10.1080/03036758.2020.1861033](https://doi.org/10.1080/03036758.2020.1861033)

COVID-19 has forced us to think critically about alternative global and local response strategies to the unprecedented devastation. Some of the most infected groups are Pacific communities and this has raised concern about the need to seriously address the issue of health and socio-economic inequality. One way of doing this is through social protection. The paper critically examines some of the conventional notions of social protection, especially those predicated on market-imperatives and assumptions and argues for new and community-relevant innovative social protection strategies to effectively mitigate the effects of COVID-19. It then discusses the integrated social protection approach (ISPA). The paper argues that while ISPA is an attempt to create an alternative, inclusive and participatory social protection strategy, the issues of equity in terms of distribution of resources and power still need to be fully addressed because of their potential to cause tension within the community. The meaningful participation and empowerment of the Pacific communities and the strategic use of their cultural norms in social protection framing and implementation are important in building up resilience and sustainability to mitigate effectively against the sudden onset of pandemics such as COVID-19. [Read more](#)

New Zealand items – general

Pacific Competency (Addressing Family Violence through Pacific Cultural Frameworks)

This cultural training has been developed to target qualified Pacific practitioners such as social workers, counsellors etc., either working specifically with Pacific families in the area of family violence or who are working with Pacific families and deal with family violence incidences or support as part of their wider work.

Each ethnic-specific programme is delivered in a combination of one of the ethnic Pacific languages and English.

The programme is FREE, however, due to high demand, limited spaces are available.

[Read more](#)

Journals and reports

Pacific young people's understanding of family violence

Ministry of Social Development (New Zealand)

This research aimed to broaden understanding of young Pacific people's identity and world views; explore how these understandings influence young Pacific people's perceptions of healthy family relationships and family violence; and build on a Pacific conceptual framework

developed by Pasefika Proud to address family violence in Pacific communities in New Zealand - Nga Vaka o Kāiāga Tapu. [Read more](#)

Pacific Health Review

Issue 28

In this issue, a longitudinal study reports that Pasifika children in NZ often face considerable residential disruption in their early lives that may compromise their ongoing health and development. [Read more](#)

Online resources – general

MMR vaccine: consent form - Cook Islands Maori version

Consent form in Cook Islands Maori for vaccination against mumps, measles and rubella (MMR), including information for parents and guardians. [Read more](#)

MMR vaccine: consent form - Samoan version

Consent form in Samoan for vaccination against mumps, measles and rubella (MMR), including information for parents and guardians. [Read more](#)

MMR vaccine: consent form - Tongan version

Consent form in Tongan for vaccination against mumps, measles and rubella (MMR), including information for parents and guardians. [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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