NZ Health System and General Practice Funding Explained!
The structure of the New Zealand health and disability sector

Ownership and formal accountability

Ministry of Health

- Policy
- Regulation
- Leadership
- National services, DHB funding and performance management, and capacity planning
- Health Workforce New Zealand
- Workforce issues

Central Government

Tax payments

Funding for providers

National Health Board: Board
Health Workforce New Zealand: Board

 NZ Health Partnerships Ltd
Provides shared support and administration and procurement services

Health Quality and Safety Commission NZ
Improves quality and safety of services

Other Health Crown entities
Various relationships with other entities
Service agreements for some services

Ministry of Health

Negotiation of accountability documents

20 District Health Boards (DHBs)

Private and NGO providers

- Pharmacists, laboratories, radiology clinics
- PHOs, GPs, midwives, independent nursing practices
- Voluntary providers
- Community trusts
- Private hospitals
- Māori and Pacific providers
- Disability support services

Services

Reporting for monitoring

Services

DHB provider arms

Predominantly hospital services, and some community services, public health services, and assessment, treatment and rehabilitation services

Services

Private health insurance

New Zealand health and disability support service users

New Zealand population and businesses

ACC levy

Contracts
New Zealand’s health and disability system is mainly funded from general taxation and is managed by the Ministry of Health

$16.773 billion in 2017/18

> ¾’s ( $12.7 billion) of the public funds through Vote Health goes to 20 DHBs

The remaining public funding provided to the Ministry is used to fund important national services
? Enough $$

- Estimated to be $215 million behind just what’s needed to cover
  - announced new services
  - pay equity
  - Inflation
  - population growth
  - aging population

- Services receiving more funding will get it from reducing funding to other services

- Health system $2.3 billion behind the value of the 2009/10 funding
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MoH</th>
<th>Has a range of roles in the system and a $198 million budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The principal advisor and support to the Minister</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• It directly funds a range of national services</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(including disability support and public health services)</td>
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<td>• Regulatory functions</td>
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Non-governmental organisations

- Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) receive significant funding ($2–4 billion per year)

- Diverse services are offered in primary care
  - mental health
  - personal health
  - disability support services
  - includes Māori and Pacific providers DHB
NASC/ARC/Home Support Services

• Every person who is > 65 years is entitled to a needs assessment

• <65 people with disabilities are also assessed via a NASC process

• DHBs also fund home support services “Aging in Place”
Public Health

• 12 Regional public health services/units

• DHB-based services and NGO’s each deliver about half of these services

• PH Unit’s focus on environmental health, communicable disease control, tobacco control and health promotion programmes

• Many of these services include a regulatory component (i.e. Medical Officers of Health)
The New Zealand approach to primary health care was criticised for many years on the grounds that it contributed to:

- Poor access to care for some groups in the population, arising from financial, cultural and other barriers to care
- Little incentive for practices to promote health or prevent disease
- A poorly distributed workforce in relation to population needs
- A bias towards GP care
- An inability for the government to fund according to population health needs.
The Strategy envisaged a greater emphasis on:

- population health and the role of the community
- health promotion and preventive care
- the need to involve a range of professionals in service delivery
- the advantages of funding based on population needs rather than fees for service
3 Main Policy Changes

- Funding for primary health care increased
- The development of Primary Health Organisations (PHOs)
- Public funding of primary care changed from fee-for-service subsidies at the practitioner level to capitation funding of PHOs.
Primary Health Organisations

Diagram:
- DHB
  - Hospital/Secondary Care Provider Arm
  - Community Services/ARC
  - PHO
PHO Services Agreement

- PHO’s funded via this national agreement
- PHO’s contract with providers via a similar agreement
- Outlines scope, quality and criteria for provision of services
- Includes multiple funding streams and clinical programmes
PHO Services Agreement

• Key principles

• Future proof

• General use of “Health Practitioner” meaning registered health professional rather than GP or RN

• Funding is available and flows to all health practitioner types

• Barriers to nurses attracting GMS, Capitation and other funding removed

• www.gpnz.org.nz
General Practice Provider Agreement
Providers

Two types of general practice providers

• Access

• Very Low Cost Access
PHO Services Agreement - Funding

• Capitation - First Level Health Services
• Services to Improve Access for High Needs groups
• Rural Funding
• Very Low Cost Access Payment
• High Use Health Card
PHO Services Agreement - Funding

- Zero Fees for Under 13 year olds
- Clinical Programmes
- Immunisations
- General Medical Subsidy
- Flexible Funding Pool
- PHO Management Service
- Quality framework – PPP – iPIF - System Level Measures
Capitation is a payment arrangement for general practice providers. It funds each practice a set amount for each enrolled person per year, paid each month, whether or not that person seeks care.
First Level Services (Capitated Services)

Defined in the contract and includes

- Health promotion
- Health education
- Evidence based screening and assessment
- Early detection and diagnosis of illness
- Urgent medical and nursing services
- Coordination of care
Access Practices

- In addition an annual payment made for each enrolled child < 13 yrs if $0 fee charged ($45-81 depending on age and gender)

- GMS subsidies are paid for casual patients but clawed back from the enrolled practice
## VLCA Top Up Payment

### Fee limits

- **$0** for <13 yrs
- **$12** for 13-17 yrs
- **$17.50** for > 18 yrs

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Rural Ranking Score

- Reasonable rosters funding
- Workforce Retention funding
- The level of funding paid is based on the rural ranking scale.

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<th>Rural ranking score of Rural Practitioner</th>
<th>$ per Enrolled Person</th>
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High Use Health Card (HUHC)

- Seen > 12 times /previous year

- Application submitted by the practice on the patients behalf

- The HUHC lasts for 1 year

- Funding automatically stops after 1 year unless reassessed

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<th>Age Group</th>
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Income Breakdown

- **35%**: Fee's
- **44%**: Capitation
- **8%**: Clinical programmes
- **8%**: GMS / IMMS
- **4%**: ACC
- **1%**: Other
Key Points

Practice’s are incentivised to

- Keep patients well and self managing in the community
- Utilise funding streams to target services and reduce cost barriers
- Utilise the depth and breadth of clinical expertise within the team (model of care)
- Utilise IT and other technologies

Capitation and Clinical Services Funding

- Linked to services provided not provider type
- Supports prevention and wellness model
- Provides additional funding support for LTC Management (CP, SIA, HP, HUHC)
The Opportunities

Identify
- Population groups to target
- Barriers and risk to access
- Possible / appropriate funding streams

Plan
- Business case
- Service delivery model
- Evaluation / outcomes