



## NZNO College of Respiratory Nurses monthly news bulletin Friday 25 June 2021

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### NZNO / section news

#### NZNO Consultation

NZNO consults with members on a range of issues. The full outline can be [found here](#)

#### Quality Statements to Guide Melanoma Diagnosis and Care in New Zealand

NZNO welcomes your feedback on draft quality statements for melanoma diagnosis and treatment in New Zealand.

#### PHARMAC Review

NZNO encourages you to have a say on how PHARMAC can best serve the needs of the communities of Aotearoa.

#### New Zealand

##### **South Auckland specialist worried about rise in severe respiratory virus cases among children**

A South Auckland doctor is worried about a sudden rise in severe respiratory virus cases among children, as winter sets in. [Read more](#)

##### **One in 10 stonemasons diagnosed with lung disease after claiming ACC for exposure to ...**

Following repeated criticism from clinicians on the **New Zealand Dust ...** sending occupational health **nurses** into larger South **Auckland** workplaces to ... [Read more](#)

#### Asthma

##### **International Asthma Guidelines Follow The Lead Of Asthma And Respiratory Foundation NZ**

GINA, the Global Initiative for Asthma, has released its strategy framework, and the Asthma and Respiratory Foundation NZ (ARFNZ) is delighted to see that the international asthma recommendations have changed to follow a similar approach to the New Zealand asthma guidelines. [Read more](#)

## COPD

### **Living with the risk of being infected: COPD patients' experiences during the coronavirus pandemic.**

Mousing, C.A. and Sørensen, D. (2021),  
J Clin Nurs, 30: 1719-1729. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.15727>

#### Aims

To explore the existential significance of living with the risk of being infected with coronavirus in patients with COPD.

#### Background

Distancing measures aim to break the coronavirus transmission chains. Physical separation from social networks and social isolation are correlated with anxiety and depression. People with a chronic obstructive lung disease are particularly vulnerable due to the increased risk of a serious course of illness, so therefore many of them choose self-isolation to protect themselves from COVID-19. [Read more](#)

### **Mirror of shame: Patients experiences of late-stage COPD. A qualitative study.**

Jerpseth, H., Knutsen, I.R., Jensen, K.T. and Halvorsen, K. (2021),  
J Clin Nurs. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.15792>

#### Aims and objectives

This study aims to shed light on patients with late-stage COPD and their experiences of shame.

#### Background

Patients with COPD often experience shame for bringing the disease into their lives due to smoking. Knowledge about patients with COPD and their feelings of shame is crucial, but limited, however. [Read more](#)

## Covid-19

### **Vaccine queue-jumpers getting Covid jabs ahead of vulnerable people, says Asthma NZ**

Healthy, fit New Zealanders are jumping the Covid-19 vaccine queue at the expense of people with compromised health conditions and respiratory conditions.

That's the view of Katheren Leitner, chief executive of Asthma NZ. [Read more](#)

### **Babies Produce Strong Immune Response to Ward Off COVID-19: Study**

MONDAY, June 14, 2021 (HealthDay News) -- British researchers report that babies have a strong immune response to the virus that causes COVID-19, based on a new, small study. [Read more](#)

### **Vulnerable children should be bumped up Covid-19 vaccine queue, health leaders argue**

The government is being asked to rethink its Covid-19 vaccine plan now Medsafe has given the green light for children as young as 12 to receive a Pfizer injection. [Read more](#)

### **Covid-19: Pfizer vaccine approved for use in 12 to 15-year-olds in New Zealand**

Medsafe has granted provisional approval for the Pfizer/BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine to be given to 12 to 15-year-olds.

The medical regulator has already approved it for use in those 16 and older, and this move follows decisions to approve the vaccine for use in 12 to 15-year-olds by other regulators in Europe, the US, Canada, and Japan. [Read more](#)

### **Covid-19: Staggered roll-out of Covid-19 vaccine to begin from end of July**

The Government will stagger the Pfizer [Covid-19](#) vaccine roll-out from oldest to the youngest people eligible to be inoculated from the end of July. [Read more](#)

### **Misinformation and lack of government action drives mandatory vaccination**

Researchers from The University of Western Australia have highlighted a link between lack of positive public information about vaccination from governments and the adoption of mandatory vaccination policies. [Read more](#)

## **Saliva Testing Reveals Super-carrier Risks On New Zealand Borders**

Just 2% of COVID-19 positive cases carry 90% of the circulating SARS-CoV-2 virus in a population which means most people with COVID-19 don't infect others but a few people are super-carriers who can infect many people, according to a Colorado University research study. [Read more](#)

## **ILD**

### **Management and support of patients with fibrosing interstitial lung diseases,**

Barbera, Tyonn NP-C, MBA; Davila, Lesley MD; Patel, Nina M. MD

The Nurse Practitioner: July 2021 - Volume 46 - Issue 7 - p 39-44 doi: 10.1097/01.NPR.0000743332.64602.aa

Fibrosing interstitial lung diseases have a variable clinical course. Regular monitoring is important to assess disease progression and inform patient care and counseling. NPs play a key role in helping patients understand their disease and its treatment and manage the adverse reactions of pharmacologic therapies. [Read more](#)

## **Influenza**

### **'Extraordinary' lack of seasonal flu in New Zealand, ESR virologist says**

Every year [the seasonal flu](#) arrives, often just in time for winter. But right now, influenza doesn't appear to be circulating in the community. [Read more](#)

## **Lung cancer**

### **Associations of aspirin, statins and metformin with lung cancer risk and related mortality**

Armin Frille, Adrien Costantini, Katherina B. Sreter

Breathe Jun 2021, 17 (2) 200325; DOI: 10.1183/20734735.0325-2020

Given the poor survival of lung cancer patients and the promising observations herein, future studies (RCTs) should further investigate both time- and dose-dependent effects of combination therapies across all categories of prevention of lung cancer. [Read more](#)

## **Lung Cancer Research Review**

### **Issue 17**

Selections in this issue include predicting immunotherapy benefits using biomarkers, whether immunotherapy rescues a poor performance status, real-world survival outcomes with immunotherapy in large-cell neuroendocrine lung carcinoma, and updated survival and other outcomes data in SCLC from IMpower133. [Read more](#)

## **Mechanical ventilation**

### **Using a breathing simulator to improve simulation-based education for noninvasive ventilation**

Daniel Turner, Graham Picton, Elizabeth Harrod, Michele Bossy

Breathe Jun 2021, 17 (2) 200285; DOI: 10.1183/20734735.0285-2020

Simulation-based medical education is recognised as a highly effective training tool. Novel technologies such as breathing simulators have the potential to revolutionise how we train healthcare professionals to manage patients requiring NIV. [Read more](#)

## **Medication / pharmacy**

### **Improving adherence in chronic airways disease: are we doing it wrongly?**

Gráinne d'Ancona, John Weinman

Breathe Jun 2021, 17 (2) 210022; DOI: 10.1183/20734735.0022-2021

Non-adherence to medicines is a significant clinical and financial burden, but successful strategies to improve it, and thus bring about significant improvements in clinical outcome, remain elusive. Many barriers exist, including a lack of awareness amongst some healthcare professionals as to the extent and impact of non-adherence and a dearth of skills to address it successfully. Patients may not appreciate that they are non-adherent, feel they cannot disclose it or underestimate its impact on their health in the short and longer term. In describing the evidence-based frameworks that identify the causal factors behind medicines taking (or not taking) behaviours, we can start to

personalise interventions to enable individuals to make informed decisions about their treatments and thus overcome real and perceived barriers to adherence. [Read more](#)

### **Measuring adherence to therapy in airways disease**

Joshua Holmes, Liam G. Heaney

Breathe Jun 2021, 17 (2) 210037; DOI: 10.1183/20734735.0037-2021

Non-adherence to medication is one of the most significant issues in all airways disease and can have a major impact on disease control as well as on unscheduled healthcare utilisation. It is vital that clinicians can accurately determine a patient's level of adherence in order to ensure they are gaining the maximal benefit from their therapy and also to avoid any potential for unnecessary increases in therapy. It is essential that measurements of adherence are interpreted alongside biomarkers of mechanistic pathways to identify if improvements in medication adherence can influence disease control.

In this review, the most common methods of measuring adherence are discussed. These include patient self-report, prescription record checks, canister weighing, dose counting, monitoring drug levels and electronic monitoring. We describe the uses and benefits of each method as well as potential shortcomings. The practical use of adherence measures with measurable markers of disease control is also discussed. [Read more](#)

### **Sleep apnoea**

#### **Simple, fast, wide-awake diagnosis of sleep apnea could enable better surgical care and improve sleep**

Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) is a very common sleep disorder, but one that is widely underdiagnosed. Its many symptoms and effects may include cardiovascular disease or memory impairment. Fatal accidents can occur when undiagnosed or untreated drivers with OSA fall asleep whilst driving. [Read more](#)

#### **Sleep apnea in children linked to increased risk of high blood pressure in teens**

Children with obstructive sleep apnea are nearly three times more likely to develop high blood pressure when they become teenagers than children who never experience sleep apnea, according to a new study funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), part of the National Institutes of Health. However, children whose sleep apnea improves as they grow into adolescence do not show an increased chance of having high blood pressure, which is a major risk factor for heart disease. [Read more](#)

### **Smoking (inc vaping and electronic cigarettes)**

#### **Cigarette poverty: Kiwi smokers reusing 'horrible' tobacco as prices soar**

New Zealand's war on tobacco and its ill-fated smoke-free goal for 2025 is causing poorer Kiwi smokers more harm than good. [Read more](#)

#### **Pēpē packs initiative to help wāhine hapu on their smoke-free journey**

A free quit smoking service based in Auckland, providing for whanau from Wellsford to Manukau, is taking a new tack to get wāhine hapu to give up by offering them incentives. [Read more](#)

#### **Many Individuals With Serious Mental Illness Successfully Quit Smoking With a Scalable, Multicomponent Intervention Program**

A scalable, multicomponent smoking cessation intervention for individuals with serious mental illness (SMI) was found to be more effective than standard care. These findings were published in JAMA Psychiatry. [Read more](#)

#### **Teens vaping a problem for almost half of central Auckland primary and intermediate schools**

Principals warn there is an increasing amount of peer pressure for younger students to start vaping - a habit that has become a significant problem in almost half of all central Auckland primary and intermediate schools. [Read more](#)

The article below is not available full text but may be sourced via a DHB or academic library, or via the NZNO library service.

### **The delivery of smoking cessation interventions by nurses who smoke: A meta-ethnographic synthesis.**

Zhang, S, Jose Duaso, M.

*J Adv Nurs.* 2021; 77: 2957– 2970. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jan.14783>

To gain new insights into the experiences of nurses who smoke and to understand the impact of those experiences on their delivery of smoking cessation interventions.

## **Tuberculosis**

### **New studies identify how tuberculosis processes destroy the lungs and how to protect them**

Two new studies have cast unprecedented light on disease processes in tuberculosis, identifying key genetic changes that cause damage in the lungs and a drug treatment that could speed up recovery. [Read more](#)

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