

Welcome to another edition of Broadsheet.

Elective Services

An additional 510 people in the DHB received elective surgery in past year, increasing the total number of procedures to 5716, up 9.8 percent, from 5206 the previous year.

This is a great result and has come about through the effort and dedication of staff in implementing the booking system that delivers fair prioritisation for patients as well as extremely hard work by the elective services team along with hospital clinicians and nursing staff.

PCI First Procedure

The first angioplasty Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) will be performed on Monday, October 8, at Nelson Hospital.

Previously this procedure was only available to NMDHB patients through Wellington Hospital.

This is the first time in New Zealand that this procedure will be performed in a hospital that does not have a cardio-thoracic surgical unit and is only possible through Wellington Hospital's remote surgical support and supervision of the first 100 procedures.

DHB Launch of Healthy Eating Policy

NMDHB has launched a Healthy Eating Policy that aims to make the healthy choice the easy choice as part of the Nutrition and Physical Activity Programme. This multi-faceted, integrated programme aims to improve nutrition, increase physical activity and achieve healthy weight for all people of Nelson and Marlborough.

NMDHB's Healthy Eating Policy is focused on food, and nutrition in the workplace.



NMDHB celebrates the launch of the Healthy Eating Policy. (Photo by Nelson Mail)

Private Specialists' Lab Tests

The Board has made a decision not to proceed along a path that could have resulted in patients being charged for laboratory test undertaken as part of private specialists treatment.

The other five South Island DHBs are currently consulting with stakeholders on the best way forward, however the Board decided NMDHB doesn't support the concept and so will not proceed with consultation. It is possible that this will become a national requirement at some time in the future.

PHO Performance

The Board considered the Performance Reports for both PHOs and agreed that Nelson Bays PHO demonstrated reasonable performance for the 2006-07 year. After considerable discussion, the Board decided by a small majority, that Kimi Hauora Wairau Marlborough Primary Health Organisation has, within recognised

Chronic Conditions Consultation

The DHB is currently encouraging feedback to develop a strategy for successfully managing Chronic Conditions. The term 'Chronic Condition' is used for long term health problems such as diabetes, asthma and heart disease. A chronic condition is defined as one that lasts, or is expected to last, a year or longer; limits what a person can do, and may require ongoing care.

It is hoped that the DHB will get a greater understanding of the problems and service gaps that exist for people suffering from chronic conditions and will plan services around these accordingly.

Successful Chronic Condition services are characterised by five key elements:

- Easy and early access to services
- Comprehensive assessment
- Holistic goal setting
- Individually designed, multidisciplinary interventions
- Links to maintenance and support

Meetings have been held in Nelson, Motueka, and Takaka and further meetings will be held in; Picton and Blenheim on 8 October 2007.

The consultation period remains open until Friday 12th of October 2007.

More information is available on www.nmdhb.govt.nz or from the DHB Board Office phone 03 546 1695 for documents which includes a questionnaire to assist in feedback to us.

Feedback can be given directly or by writing a submission to: Planning and Funding.

NMDHB, Private Bag 18, Nelson, Attn: Sarah Foster, Email: sarah.foster@nmdhb.govt.nz

Minister's Visit

The Minister of Health, Pete Hodgson will visit Blenheim on Thursday 18 October. During this time he will visit Wairau Hospital as well as community health services.

White Ribbon Day - November 25

The DHB plans to participate in the international White Ribbon Day, 25 November, when people wear a white ribbon to show that they do not condone men's violence towards women.

It was started by a men's movement in Canada in 1991 and has been officially adopted by the United Nations as its International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

Men are encouraged to challenge each other on attitudes and behaviour that condone/support /tolerate violence towards women.

More information on DHB activities will be available in the next edition of Broadsheet.

For distribution information please contact gilda.mcarthur@nmdhb.govt.nz
or phone 03 546 1963

Meetings

Disability Support Advisory Committee

Blenheim
12 noon Tuesday

9 October 2007

Community and Public Health Advisory Committee

Nelson
1pm Tuesday
16 October 2007

District Health Board

Blenheim
10am Tuesday
18 Oct 2007

Hospital Advisory Committee

Nelson
1pm Tuesday
23 Oct 2007