

Seasons Greetings from the staff, management and Board of Nelson Marlborough District Health Board.

Wairau Hospital Redevelopment

The Nelson Marlborough District Health Board has approved a new Master Plan for the Wairau Hospital and Health Centre Marlborough. The new plan was developed after feedback was received on the Preliminary Design reviewed in September by the Ministry of Health.

The Ministry of Health suggested further improvements for 'way finding' (finding your way around), future expansion zones and increased flexibility between inpatient areas. The new Master Plan will now be forwarded to the Ministry of Health for final sign off. More information is available on the website www.nmdhb.govt.nz/wairau

Baby 1000

The 1000th baby to be born in Nelson Hospital this year was safely delivered on Thursday, 13 December 2007. It is the first time in 20 years that the number of births in Nelson Hospital exceeded 1000 births in a year. Births at the Maternity ward have been steady throughout the year with staff effectively managing babies, mothers and beds in the unit which has been at capacity on a number of occasions. The increased number of births this year may be attributable to a lower number of home-births occurring this year and an increasing population in the region.

After Hours Primary Care Consultation

Sixty eight feedback forms were received from both individuals and organisations across the top of the South, representing a cross section of the population.

Submissions were received on behalf of approx 4000 people.

64% of respondents were over the age of 60.

19% of respondents had specific health needs, and the remaining were parents with young children, or mid-age with few health concerns.

The organisations that responded were: Rural Woman of New Zealand, National Council of Women of New Zealand, Dovedale Rural Women, Victory Village Community Health, Nelson Pacific Island Community Trust, Youth Mental Health, Whakatu Marae & Social Services, Te Rapuora Health.

Travel was of high concern for those living South of Richmond, and those in Picton. Living alone with inability to drive when unwell was raised by a number of the over 60 population, and having to drive young children for long distances was seen as a safety issue.

Braemar Campus Development

The refurbishment of Caithness Villa on Braemar Campus is near completion and on target for Adult Mental Health Outpatients to move into in late January, 2008. The service currently in Kawai St will be accessed off upper Franklyn St, Nelson.

Braemar Gym is also being transformed into meeting rooms, this work is expected to be completed in late February.

NMDHB Health Management System

NMDHB has endorsed a new Health Management System that in addition to having the normal patient record and administration functions will also support community and self care through the ability to view a consolidated clinical history, and over time, perform health related transactions.

This system would replace the current aging Ora-Care system for patient management and go further to wrap the system around the individual, rather than the system aligned to the provider. Recently Information Technology has been flagged as a key priority area for closer links between the primary sector (GPs etc) and the DHB.

Eventually the system would allow individuals access to information about their health, and to take control of it, not just via interactions with clinicians and allied health providers

The approval by the Board in the last meeting of the year is the first of three stages of the Ministry of Health Guidelines for Investment in IT.

SuperGold Card

The SuperGold Card is a concession card for New Zealand residents who are 65 or over, or who qualify for NZ Superannuation or a Veteran's Pension.

It provides commercial discounts from participating businesses, and easy access to concessions on government and local authority services.

The SuperGold Card replaces the Community Services Card and Super Card. People who currently hold those cards will be able to access their entitlements through the SuperGold Card. Those holders of a SuperGold Card who have entitlements of the Community Services Card will have CSC written on the back of the card, the number to be recorded for the Community Services Card is the 11 digit number on the top left, on the back of the card.

A freephone has been set up for interested businesses on 0508 65 00 00.

Needs-Searchable Healthcare Directory (NSHD)

Needs-Searchable Healthcare Directory (NSHD) is a needs searchable directory of healthcare service providers for healthcare professionals.

It is a comprehensive, up-to-date healthcare provider database that enables healthcare professionals to search by healthcare need; reducing administration time and enabling the professional to be more patient focused by searching for specific patient needs. NSHD listings are maintained by individual healthcare providers to ensure accuracy of the information.

General information is available free at www.nshd.co.nz Additional information such as eligibility criteria, referral details, cost/funding details, contact person details, hours, and cultural and language capabilities is available to organisations for an annual fee. Contact Quincerto on 0508 332 537 for further information.

Meetings

District Health Board

Nelson

10am Tuesday
29 January 2008

Disability Support Advisory Committee

Blenheim

12 noon Tuesday
5 February 2008

Community and Public Health Advisory Committee

Blenheim

1pm Tuesday
12 February 2008

Hospital Advisory Committee

Nelson

1pm Tuesday
19 February 2008