

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**15 November 2016**

**RE: Earthquake response update\_ 10am Tuesday**

Despite the wild weather and continued aftershocks overnight Nelson Marlborough Health has not received any new damage to its key facilities.

The DHB Incident Management team has met this morning and are able to confirm that all key hospital structures in Nelson and Wairau have been checked and confirmed as safe.

The Marlborough Health Hub in Blenheim has sustained some damage and remains closed. Public Health services have relocated to Wairau Hospital. The Richmond Health Hub is fully operational.

Acting CE Peter Bramley thanks staff for their continued support over the past 32 hours.

“The staff have responded extremely well and been able to maintain patient care and services during this time” he says. “While the DHB Incident Management team are continuing to meet as we move in to recovery mode around the earthquake, we are now addressing issues due to the severe weather the region is experiencing. This has affected staff travelling between Nelson and Blenheim.”

The Incident Management team is working with Kimi Hauora Wairau, the Marlborough Primary Health Organisation (KHW MPH) to assess any health assistance required for the Ward community in Marlborough.

The number of presentations to Nelson and Wairau Hospitals Emergency Departments due to earthquake related conditions, mainly fall injuries, cuts and lacerations, has remained minimal, with around 27 in Wairau and 4 in Nelson.

The Nelson Marlborough Public Health Service has issued some important health messages concerning water and sewerage. These can be viewed on the DHB website [nmdhb.govt.nz](http://nmdhb.govt.nz)

The public are reminded to follow the ‘Drop, Cover, Hold’ Civil defence message during the period of aftershocks.

Updates are posted regularly on our public website [nmdhb.govt.nz](http://nmdhb.govt.nz) and on our Facebook pages (Nelson Hospital, Wairau Hospital and Nelson Marlborough Health).

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