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## **NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024**

Welcome from Dr Grant Davidson, Chief Executive



Kia ora tātou

It is great to be writing this introductory message fresh from the closure of the National Rural Health Conference held at Tākina in Wellington. We had our biggest-ever attendance at the conference, and more importantly, the participant list was representative of the broad cross-section of our membership. The keynotes and break-out sessions were also indicative of the new membership structure of Hauora Taiwhenua as well – giving a broad and deep insight into the health of rural communities and how our multi-disciplinary teams are trying to address the health inequities across rural New Zealand.

The feedback from those who attended was generally very positive, with an overall score of 4.1 out of 5 for people getting what they wanted out of the Conference. By far the most important reason for attendance was 'Networking Opportunities' (80%) followed some way behind by 'Professional

Development' (64%) and 'Programme relevant to my life/study/work in the community' (61%). I am pleased that for the great majority, we met those needs.

For many, they relished the opportunity to attend workshops that allowed them to view rural health through the eyes of another discipline. One attendee said they went out of their way to attend sessions that weren't focussed on their particular profession and got great learning from doing so. A very few participants commented on the fact that they wanted a much larger emphasis on Clinical Sessions for their specialty. We will try to reinforce for future conferences that our focus is on the work of the whole primary care team working in rural areas; and as such, will look and feel very different to pure GP and CME conferences that are more targeted at GP clinical professional development. We will continue to promote the difference that we can offer through a pan-disciplinary rural health conference and what value that can add to our membership.

Later in this newsletter, we reflect on those individuals who were recognised for their massive contributions to rural health over an extended period of time. In my mind, it is crucial to hold up our 'Tall Poppies' or 'Totara Haemata' for recognition and acknowledgement. Congratulations to Rhoena Davis and Kyle Eggleton as recipients of the Peter Snow Award, and Julia Cronin from the Ministry of Health for her consultative and collaborative work with us in developing the first-ever rural health strategy being presented the Te Waka Kotahitanga Award for the first time.

Also acknowledging our 'Māhuri Totara' – our young trees who have so much future potential. This year Sue Donaldson was awarded the Emerging Rural Health Educator Award and Deborah Rhodes the Emerging Rural Health Researcher Award.

Finally, I would like to herald some further good news! After two years of advocacy, supported by the National PRIME Committee and their Chair Mark Eager, along with many other colleague organisations, we have been informed that a change to the ACC regulations to allow Paramedics to be recognised as a 'treatment provider' (so able to be funded by ACC) and as a 'registered health professional' (so has their treatment covered by ACC's treatment injury provisions), is now out for consultation. This is great news for rural general practices that want to utilise Paramedics as part of their team to work in their practices and assist in PRIME responses.

To ensure that this change goes through, I encourage you to make a submission (no matter how brief) to support this change. There's still quite a bit of bureaucracy to navigate – but it is hoped to have the changes to the regulations in force just before Christmas. The consultation paper outlines the process (as shown below), so please act and make your submission before close-off on May 16th.



I look forward to seeing a number of you at Parliament on May 7th, after the demonstration of mobile health units on May 6th, some of you at the Rural Connectivity Symposium being run by TUANZ in Rotorua on May 7/8 and then at Fieldays at Mystery Creek in Hamilton on June 13 – 15th.

Ngā mihi nui **Dr Grant Davidson** Chief Executive Hauora Taiwhenua Rural Health Network

ACC

## Consultation on changes to the Accident Compensation (Definitions) Regulations now open

# Please find the below communications from ACC, seeking consultation on changes to the Accident Compensation (Definitions) Regulations, as this process is now open.

On behalf of the Minister for ACC, the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment is consulting on changes to regulations made under the *Accident Compensation Act 2001.* 

The proposed changes amend the *Accident Compensation (Definitions) Regulations 2019* (Definitions Regulations) to update or widen who is a 'treatment provider' (so able to be funded by ACC) and who is a 'registered health professional' (so has their treatment covered by ACC's treatment injury provisions).

Specifically, the proposed changes are to:

- amend the definition of acupuncturist in the Definitions Regulations to recognise the Chinese Medicine Council as the new regulatory body to ensure ACC funding continues
- add Chinese medicine practitioners as registered health professionals in the Definitions Regulations so any injuries arising from their treatment is covered under the ACC treatment injury provisions
- add paramedics as treatment providers in the Definitions Regulations to ensure ACC can fund treatment provided by them beyond that covered under existing ambulance service contracts
- add appropriate new paramedic treatment rates to the Cost of Treatment Regulations.
- add paramedics as registered health professionals in the Definitions Regulations to ensure that any injuries from their treatment

continues to be covered under the ACC treatment injury provisions

- add audiometrists as treatment providers in the Definitions
  Regulations to enable ACC to fund treatment provided by them
- add appropriate new audiometrist treatment rates to the Cost of Treatment Regulations.
- amend the definition of audiologist in the Definitions Regulations to align with the revised New Zealand Audiological Society definition
- amend the definition of nurse in the Definitions Regulations to recognise minor changes to the nursing scope of practice.

It is also proposed to add new payment rates to the *Accident Compensation (Liability to Pay or Contribute to Cost of Treatment) Regulations 2003* and *Accident Compensation (Apportioning Entitlements for Hearing Loss) Regulations 2010* (together known as the Cost of Treatment Regulations) to ensure ACC can make appropriate treatment payments to the proposed new treatment providers.

We invite you to make a submission on the proposed changes. The consultation document and instructions on how to make a submission are available on MBIE's website:

#### Changes to ACC regulations for Chinese medicine, paramedics and audiometrists I Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (mbie.govt.nz)

We encourage you to share the consultation material with your members and stakeholders. Submissions close on 16 May 2024.

Ngā mihi, Stafford Thompson Head of Health Partnerships (Acting)

## Membership

## **HTRHN Advisory Service - A New Member Benefit**

The HTRHN Advisory Service is a new member benefit for medical practices and practitioners across the motu.

Some of you may be familiar with the service previously offered by Robyn Fell at NZMA. We are pleased that Robyn, in her capacity as Operations Manager at Hauora Taiwhenua, is rolling out the same service to HT members with advice around HR and other practice-related matters.

As a member of Hauora Taiwhenua, you will have access to advice on a

variety of issues, including:

- Performance and conduct management
- Managing incapacity
- Sample employment agreements
- Redundancy and business change
- Retention of medical records
- Patient notes requests from insurers

Download the Advisory resources by logging into our member portal. Alternatively, contact Robyn Fell, Operations Manager, for further information.

Phone: 021 595 937 Email: robyn.fell@htrhn.org.nz

## A Note from the Board - Conference 2024 Dr Fiona Bolden



Hauora Taiwhenua Board Members, Debi Lawry, Wilson Mitchell, Rhoena Davis, Fiona Bolden and Bill Nathan, at the National Rural Health Conference Awards Dinner.

Our National Rural Health Conference which was held in Wellington on

5th-6th April was well attended with approximately 500 people coming from around the motu. It was held at the Takina Convention Centre. "Takina" means to invoke, to summon and to connect as was so beautifully described during the Powhiri. The most powerful force summoned in Wellington is the wind. So appropriate then that it was here we came together to embrace the winds of change, which are blowing through all of our mahi in rural health. We had an inspirational MC, Jehan Casinader who led us through the proceedings with energy and understanding. He also facilitated several panel sessions which generated some interesting discussion. The choices across the concurrent sessions were huge and in fact, it was often hard to decide which one to go to. We are very grateful to those who chose to share their experiences with us. Our conference aims to have something for everyone within rural health which includes our rural communities and students as well as all our clinicians. This was evident in the diversity of the content which was certainly different to the traditional conferences. There was plenty of opportunity to catch up and network with like-minded people, both the old faces and the new.

At the conference and awards dinner, we had an opportunity to congratulate the winners of our awards: the Peter Snow 2023 and 2024 award going to Rhoena Davis and Kyle Eggleton respectively, the new Emerging Rural Health Researcher award going to Deborah Rhodes, the new Emerging Rural Health educator award going to Sue Donaldson and the Te Waka Kotahitanga award going to Julia Cronin.

It is almost 2 years since we officially launched as an organisation that aims to be inclusive, diverse and solutions-focused. Our conference is a mirror of our many different facets, and it really felt this year that this could be seen reflected over those two days. Together we are stronger, and collaboration is the key to our ability to thrive through turbulent times. Our last speaker, Ratu Mataira was not speaking about health at all, but about solving global climate change with his company OpenStar; the thing which really struck me about his project was his extreme optimism about solving a seemingly impossible challenge. We certainly have challenges around us on a daily basis, but I was left with the feeling that we are an unstoppable force and that we could all do with a touch of Ratu's optimism as we move forward together.

## Te Rōpū Ārahi

## Expression of Interest: Te Ropū Ārahi

Te Rōpū Ārahi is currently seeking Expressions Of interest to join Te Rōpū Ārahi

- A good understanding of rural health and Māori Health
- Experiences within Te Ao Māori and Tikanga

- Please contact Bill Nathan or Rhoena Davis at Hauora Taiwhenua
- Expression of Interest and your CV will be beneficial.
- Kia Kaha Kia Maia Kia Manawanui

Please email: rhoena.davis@mahitahihauora.co.nz or bill.nathan@icloud.com

**Conference 2024** 

## Two Peter Snow Memorial Award winners presented at the National Rural Health Conference 2024



The legacy of Dr Peter Snow continues to inspire as the recipients of the Peter Snow Memorial Awards for 2023 and 2024 were announced at the National Rural Health Conference 2024.

Rhoena Davis has been recognised as the recipient for 2023, while Kyle Eggleton has been awarded the honour for 2024. Despite there being no Conference in 2023 following the disruption of COVID, the decision was made to honour the work of nominees during that time.

Both recipients were nominated for their longstanding service and dedication to rural health.

Rhoena Davis has been honoured with the Peter Snow Memorial Award for 2023. Her exemplary service to Māori health, rural healthcare delivery and nursing leadership all merge to form an unwavering dedication to rural health

and the vulnerable populations represented within.

As a Māori board member of the College of Nurses Aotearoa and a member of the New Zealand Nursing Council Komiti Māori, Rhoena has played a pivotal role in shaping nursing leadership and advocating for Māori health at local, regional, and national levels.

At the forefront of her leadership is Aronuku, the Māori caucus of the College of Nurses Aotearoa, of which Rhoena serves as the current chair. Aronuku, alongside its counterpart Arorangi, embodies the holistic approach to nursing, acknowledging, and addressing the diverse needs of communities within Aotearoa.

Rhoena's influence extends beyond her roles within nursing organisations. She has led initiatives to develop cultural safety competencies, advocated for funding and policy changes to support Nurse Practitioners, and worked tirelessly to address inequities in healthcare delivery, particularly in rural and remote areas.

Her commitment to advancing nursing excellence is evident through her involvement in various national groups, including the National Nurse Leaders Group, Ora Taiao, and the Federation of Primary Health Care. Rhoena's leadership is characterised by her passion for primary care and her advocacy for vulnerable populations, making her a highly respected figure within the medical community.

Beyond nursing organisations, Rhoena sits on the Hauora Taiwhenua Board as Deputy Chair, where her expertise has been influential in shaping the organisation's foundation. Furthermore, Rhoena has been part of initiatives aimed at actualising the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi – partnership, protection, and participation – through her position as Deputy Chair of Te Rōpū Ārahi.

Rhoena Davis' relentless pursuit to improve Māori health outcomes and her steadfast commitment to nursing leadership make her a deserving recipient of the Peter Snow Award. Her exemplary service reflects a deep commitment to fostering equitable healthcare delivery and improving patient outcomes.





Kyle Eggleton was announced as the recipient of the 2024 Peter Snow Memorial Award, with his contributions reflecting a persistent commitment to improving healthcare access and outcomes for rural communities, embodying the spirit of service and leadership in the healthcare sector.

After graduating with a medical degree from the University of Auckland, Kyle returned to Northland to work as a rural GP, driven by a deep understanding of the impacts of rurality and social deprivation on community health.

His commitment to addressing these disparities led him to join a Māori health provider, where he spearheaded community-led projects focused on improving health equity.

Kyle's clinical practice informs his academic roles – as a teacher for medical and health students, as a researcher leading medical education and rural health projects, and as a leader, the latter culminating in his appointment as Associate Dean (Rural) at Auckland University.

Through this role, Kyle's achievements include establishing a rural stream for medical students and implementing admission schemes to professional health programs for rural-origin students. His dedication to rural healthcare extends to designing curricula and interprofessional programs, aimed at enhancing healthcare delivery in underserved areas.

The feedback from his students is always incredibly positive with many speaking about his advocacy, compassion and hope for rural health workforce development and the potential impact on rural communities and their wellbeing.

In addition to his medical degree, Kyle holds Masters degrees in medical science, and Public Health, and a PhD, which explored the concept of measuring the quality of Māori health providers using a Kaupapa Māori aligned methodology.

"We are delighted to recognise Kyle Eggleton and Rhoena Davis for their exceptional contributions to rural health," said Dr Fiona Bolden, Chair, Hauora Taiwhenua.

"Through their remarkable impacts, Rhoena and Kyle have demonstrated that dedication knows no bounds when it comes to serving rural communities. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to them both."



(pictured standing center, presenting at HTRHN Strategic Planning Day 2023

## National Rural Health Conference

## Inaugural Te Waka Kotahitanga Awarded to Julia Cronin, Manatū Hauora

Julia Cronin of Manatū Hauora was awarded the inaugural Te Waka Kotahitanga Award at the National Rural Health Conference 2024.

Julia received the award in recognition of the significant role she played in developing New Zealand's first Rural Health Strategy. New to the rural health sector when her task to develop the Strategy got underway, her enthusiasm and commitment to understanding the unique needs, priorities, and challenges faced by rural populations was instrumental in ensuring the Strategy reflects the diversity that sits within rural communities.

The Network admired Julia's genuine understanding that an effective rural health strategy required a grassroots approach. We appreciated her efforts to travel to and talk with rural communities, and rural health services in their own environments. This was surpassed when at her own cost, and in her personal time, Julia spent time at the Mystery Creek Fieldays, talking with exhibitors and visitors in the Hauora Taiwhenua Rural Health Hub.

Julia's approach to the development of New Zealand's inaugural Rural Health Strategy demonstrates her commitment to improving the well-being of rural populations and makes her worthy of being the inaugural winner of the Te Waka Kotahitanga Award.

Julia was unfortunately away at the time NRHC24 took place, so her award was received by Helen Connole, (pictured below) on her behalf.



## **Rural Health Careers Programme**

## **Rural Health Careers Programme Video Opportunities**

Are you or do you know someone working in rural audiology, occupational therapy, optometry, psychology, social work, dentistry, pharmacy, or anaesthetic technology?

We're gearing up to create compelling video content for our Rural Health Careers webpage, aimed at inspiring secondary and tertiary students to consider careers in rural healthcare. These documentary-style videos will showcase the diverse roles and lifestyles of healthcare professionals like you, highlighting the rewards and challenges of rural health.

We're looking for individuals to share their experiences, insights, and even hobbies or interests outside of work to show the full spectrum of rural life. Your participation could make a real difference in inspiring the next generation of healthcare professionals.

To get a sense of what we're looking for, check out our previous videos here.

If you know someone who fits this profile, give them a tap on the shoulder and introduce them to us! Contact Samantha Hill at samantha.hill@htrhn.org.nz or call 022 374 7706 to get involved.

Let's showcase the vibrant world of rural healthcare and inspire the leaders of tomorrow together!

## Reminder: Access Your Member App for Savings and Support!

Just a friendly reminder that as a valued member of the Hauora Taiwhenua Rural Health Network, you have access to our exclusive member app, designed to enhance your experience and help you save on everyday purchases.

#### What You Can Expect:

- **Convenient Access:** Whether you're looking for member information or retail discounts, our app puts everything you need right at your fingertips.
- **Savings Galore:** Take advantage of exclusive discounts at a variety of retailers through.
- Stay Connected: Keep up-to-date with the latest news and updates.

#### Easy Registration:

If you haven't already, simply download the app from the Play Store (Android) and the App Store (Apple), register using your Hauora Taiwhenua member number, and start enjoying the benefits. If you need assistance with registration, don't hesitate to reach out to Ingrid Busby at ingrid.busby@htrhn.org.nz.

Make the most of your membership and download the HTRHN Member App today. It's your key to savings and support wherever you go.

# OPEN DAY

For many individuals, especially vulnerable or ill patients, travelling long distances to access health services poses a significant barrier, often resulting in suboptimal health outcomes. Mobile health services have emerged as a safe and efficient solution to bridge this gap.

Discover first-hand how mobile health units complement and enhance traditional health facilities, ensuring accessible and equitable healthcare services for regional and rural areas while also providing a tool to address high demand in urban areas.

Join us for an exclusive opportunity to tour these state-of-the-art mobile units, connect with our teams, ask questions, and discover their positive impacts on individuals, whānau and communities across the country.

**Bridging** distances for better health

Parliament Buildings, 1 Museum Street, Pipitea, Wellington Monday 6 May, 7am – 6pm



scan here for more information





**Rural School Visits** 

## Rural Health Careers Programme - Hawkes Bay Rural School Visit Report

## **Isaiah Mansell**

It is my pleasure to present what this group did on the Hawkes Bay region trip, visiting six schools over three days – Te Aute College, Havelock North High School, Central Hawkes Bay College, Napier Boys and Napier Girls High School and Iona and Woodford. A presentation was given to each school in the beginning followed by an interactive session for the remainder of the visit. How we split up the groups of tauira depended on the number of students.

The overall outcome of our presentation across all of the schools was good, though it depended again on how interested the students were. For example, our engagement dropped off quite quickly for the boys at Te Aute, contrary to Iona and Woodford, where the engagement was so strong that our presentation took >25 minutes (with questions in between). We quickly realised that the presentation was a taster and that our chances for a positive change would come from our activities.

Adam's dentistry activity was an alginate impression that yielded mixed reactions. He spoke about some students loving the experience, even if it was a slightly uncomfortable and very confrontational one. Towards the end, he realised it was probably best if the students did the impressions

on him so he could bear all the "suffering", which I think is great because it allowed the students to carry out a very common procedure.



James' paramedicine activity was CPR. He said the engagement was great, but it was both James' passion for what he is doing and learning and Nicole's experience having almost completed her paramedicine degree. Interestingly, I think the engagement was higher for every school in general within the paramedics when Nicole was simply chatting to one person about what she does. We learnt that if one (student) comes, they all come.

Jamila had two dietetic activities. The students were asked to rank supermarket items in terms of how unhealthy they were based on sugar content. I loved this activity as it was very educative, but also allowed the groups to work together and decide. Her second activity was the grip strength test. This test was to show the students a measurement of malnourishment. The boys loved this the most and even got the teachers involved too - specifically at Napier Boys High School. Jamila was unhappy initially with her engagement because she felt she could not connect with the students on a personal level. We all discussed this and realised that students do not need to be educated about the formalities of our degrees, what we do at every step of the way, but why we do it! We needed to be more personal and vulnerable so that the students would reciprocate their vulnerability and attention.

Durrane's optometry activity debatably engaged the students the most with the three components of her station. The first was a model of the eye in which she asked pop quiz-style questions on anatomy and function, and several students knew a number of the answers. The second component was the colour blindness test, a simple screening test that flagged several students. However, I think her most successful activity was the vision test, where students could assist and be tested alongside Durrane's instruction. She showed so much passion for how much the students enjoyed every activity.

Finally, Nic and I led the tendon hammer and blood pressure medicine activity. Nic was a very, very good partner to have, having all the medical experience but also speaking to the students in such a captivating way. Even with the students who were disinterested in medicine as a potential career, he managed to engage a vast majority. I think I struggled, in the beginning, to excite the students with such a simple activity, though we modified the activity to test different tendons and include different reflexes. Most of our engagement came from the ones who were either very set on medicine on the fence between studying health in Auckland or Dunedin or wanting to know more about Otago University as a whole. Because of the variation in numbers between each school, we introduced blood pressure in large groups because we could allocate one student to be the patient and one to be the doctor testing blood pressure. Nic and I quickly realised how difficult it is to teach blood pressure to where the students stay interested, but also get somewhat of an accurate reading.

Beyond the school visits, I think it was so advantageous to have someone from the Hawkes Bay region in our group. It made navigation so much easier, and Adam had many amazing suggestions for food and sightseeing – Te Mata Peak, Te Mata Waterfalls, Bluff Hill, and Waimarama Beach. It made the experience so much more complete. Our group was so self-sufficient, and we all collaborated extremely well throughout the trip. A special shoutout to Nicole as well - she was our timekeeper and slideshow operator and was very switched on with the itinerary. She was truly a pleasure to talk to and work alongside and it is no wonder that all the students loved her.



Finally, it was a pleasure talking to Jeremy about his experiences working in a rural hospital and his experiences as a director. We as a group, felt so privileged to have some quality time expanding our understanding of why we are doing what we are doing and what is going on beyond the scenes. In my personal experience, this trip was about experiencing a rural community and seeing whether or not I would like to work in a rural environment. I think it is fair to say that I am very interested in working in a rural community and even following in the footsteps of Nic and doing my 5th year of Medicine in a rural hospital.

Thank you all for allowing us to be part of this special experience. I will definitely be on the lookout for more opportunities to speak to audiences of any age about the importance of rural health, Māori and Pasifika health.



Innovation

## Mental health workshops available to support rural communities



Rural MH101 is a 1-day in-person workshop or 3-session online workshop for people living and working in rural communities, who haven't had clinical mental health training and are not registered health professionals. Delivered by facilitators with rural backgrounds, the workshop gives participants the tools and strategies to manage their mental health and wellbeing, recognise when someone is experiencing mental health challenges and know how to support them when they need it.

Weathering the Storm is a 4-hour in person or online workshop for people who have been impacted by severe weather events. Participants will discover the emotional phases of a disaster, how to manage anxiety and distress, and ways to build resilience. They'll also get practical advice on how to support others, tips for reducing weather-related anxiety, and tools to help build resilience for the future.

Blueprint for Learning is funded by Te Whatu Ora to run mental health literacy workshops throughout Aotearoa New Zealand. Our workshops are co-facilitated with one facilitator bringing their own life experience of mental health challenges and recovery, and the other is a registered mental health professional.

For more information and to register for Blueprint workshops, please see our website: https://www.blueprint.co.nz/workshops/

#### Innovation

## Call for expressions of interest: Eating disorders I issues external advisory group:

Please find the below communications from Dr Kristin Gozdzikowska, I Workforce Delivery Lead for Whāraurau, looking to see if there was a rural primary care professional who'd be interested in contributing to an Eating Disorders advisory group.

Do you currently have knowledge I experience of eating disorders I issues as a result of your mahi or from a lived experience perspective?

The primary function of the External Advisory Group is to bring individual perspectives and expertise to provide advice, support, critical thinking and challenge to the delivery of this initiative.

This is an advisory rather than a decision-making forum. Specific functions are as follows:

To provide advice to Whāraurau on the specific initiative deliverables as described in the <u>Project Description</u>.

To provide advice to Te Whatu Ora, and Manatū Hauora (Ministry of Health). The priority of requests will be agreed with the Te Whatu Ora National Commissioning Mentally Well Team.

Further information can be found here:

https://wharaurau.org.nz/eatingdisorders/events/call-expressions-interestexternal-advisory-group-membership

The official call for expressions of interest have closed, but as we had limited number of applications in the PHO space, **interested parties can email Dr Kristin Gozdzikowska** at <u>Kristin.gozdzikowska@auckland.ac.nz</u>



## Welcome to the NZPSHA 2024 Conference

The New Zealand Private Surgical Hospitals Association (NZPSHA) extends a warm invitation for you to join us for the NZPSHA inaugural Conference to be held at the Hilton Hotel, Auckland, New Zealand from Wednesday 11th to Friday 13th September 2024.

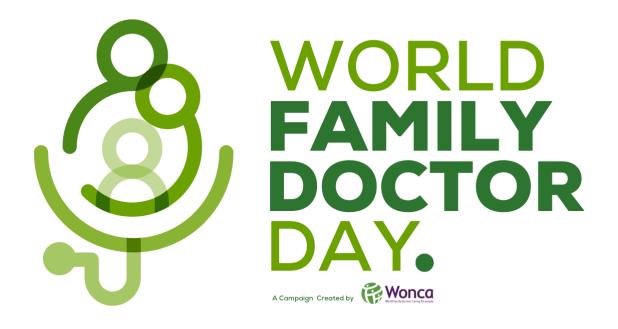
Our masterclasses will be held on Wednesday 11th September, with the conference from Thursday 12th to Friday 13th September 2024.

We are planning to discuss and debate relevant issues in the private hospitals sector with panel discussions, keynote addresses and conversations during the social functions. Our delegation will hear from experts in their fields, hospital representatives and some inspirational speakers.

This NZPSHA Conference will bring together hospital leaders, experts and representatives from across New Zealand's health system, we encourage you to join us.

NZPSHA executive looks forward to your registration and welcoming you to our inaugural conference.

Richard Whitney (President NZPSHA) and Blair Roxborough (NZPSHA Vice-President)



## **WONCA Update**

This year, we celebrate World Family Doctor Day, on 19th May 2024, under the theme "Healthy Planet, Healthy People," emphasizing the link between the health of our planet and the health of our patients.

Three key messages are being pushed throughout this campaign.

- 1. Human activities that disrupt Earth's natural systems directly affect our health, and protecting the environment is essential for our wellbeing.
- 2. Family doctors have a unique capacity to understand and communicate the shifting landscape of planetary health challenges, as trusted sources of information in their communities.
- **3.** Primary care and preventing disease is the key to reducing carbon emissions of the healthcare sector, which currently accounts for a 4.4% of global emissions.

For more information and all resources available through this campaign, check here: WFDD 2024 (worldfamilydoctorday.org)

The toolkit provides comprehensive resources to help health professionals understand the health impacts of climate change, as well as health cobenefits of climate action, build confidence in communication, and engage with various stakeholders effectively. By empowering health and care workers to communicate about climate change and health, it aims to drive collective action towards mitigating climate change, building resilience and safeguarding public health.



ANNE JOHANSEN

WHO Regional Director's Special Representative to North Macedonia Adviser GIOVANNI BAGLIO Head of the Research Unit, AGENAS, Italy

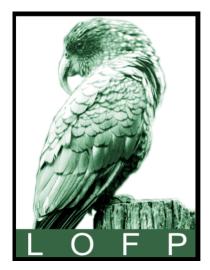
## HABRENHAG

LET'S TALK PHC: Don't miss the upcoming #LetsTalkPHC talk show, 'PHC: bridging rural access gaps for greater equity' where frontline practitioners, researchers and policymakers will share unique perspectives and evidence-based interventions for #PHC4UHC. 24 April

In this episode we'll be exploring the access gaps in rural areas and the role that PHC plays in tackling this issue. Panelists from diverse backgrounds will delve into the multifaceted factors influencing access in rural, isolated, and dispersed population areas.

**Register Here** 

## Leaning on Fence Posts New Content Available on Leaning on Fence Posts



## Rural general practice and ethical issues. A rapid review of the literature

This paper sets out to explore the key ethical issues experienced by doctors in a rural setting and a) to create an educational resource for medical students and b) to contribute to the call for a 'NZ agenda of rural medical ethics and to influence the development of appropriate guidelines and standards'. The rapid review method was used due to the limited availability of the first author and the recent Cochrane Rapid Review Methods Group recommendations (2023) were followed. In keeping with the limitations of the method just 3 major databases were searched and 12 papers were selected from an

initial 515 studies.

Check out the latest content on the University of Otago's Leaning on Fence Posts Blog via the button below.

**READ MORE** 







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