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## **Budget insults general practice, says GenPro leader**



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GenPro chair Tim Malloy says it is ironic that a Budget that doesn't invest in general practice is delivered on World Family Doctor Day

## News and reaction to Budget 2022

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The failure of the Budget to invest in sustainable general practice is an insult and puts the public at risk, says General Practice Owners Association chair Tim Malloy.

Dr Malloy expressed frustration that the bulk of the new health spending announced today is for “change management” and “implementing the new Government agenda”.

“As far as we can tell, that’s not going to address the resourcing of frontline services,” says the specialist GP and general practice owner.

## **Sustainability ignored**

He says the Budget in essence delivers nothing that addresses the sustainability of the current general practice model, or to allow general practice to meet the demands of delegated work from DHBs and their successors.

There is also nothing to grow the workforce or address the issues of DHB nurse pay parity for general practice nurses, and none of the new training money appears to cover doctors, says Dr Malloy.

He says the Budget allocations for locality provider network “service integration” and building “comprehensive primary care teams” do not address the sustainability of frontline services.

“That money will be aimed at coordination and establishment of localities and the establishment of Māori and Pacific providers.”

### **Puts public “at risk”**

Dr Malloy says the Budget will leave general practices, GPs, nurses and other health providers still under strain.

The consequences of that are a “significant risk to the general public” with the implementation of localities at least one to two years away.

Dr Malloy cannot see any help from the Budget that would “allow us to continue to deliver our services in the meantime”.

“As a sector that was the frontline of the COVID response in this country, we see that as an insult.

“And it will do nothing to address our issues of workforce development across our provider range.”

Dr Malloy says he can't speak of direct consequences as the impact will vary by practice and community.

“But, ultimately, without a sustainable income stream, something has got to go or give.”

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