



In this panui:

- Steady uptake of contract Variation 1A before 17 September deadline
- September ICPSA payments for contract-holders
- Latest pack fee rate review
- First meeting of National Annual Agreement Review 2019-20 – all welcome
- Whakanuia Te Reo Māori
- Māori Health Action Plan Consultation
- Health and Disability System Review Interim Report Released
- He Tohu Mauri Ora/NZ Primary Healthcare Awards nominations open
- 2019 measles outbreak information

Tena koutou katoa. Anei nga pitopito korero o te panui tekau ma tahi o Rongoā. Welcome to the eleventh edition of Rongoā – the monthly newsletter (panui) of the DHBs' Community Pharmacy Services Programme.

If you have any suggestions for future topics, please drop us a line at: pharmacy@tas.health.nz

Steady uptake of ICPSA Variation 1A before 17 September deadline

Community pharmacies throughout the country are steadily signing up to Variation 1A of the Integrated Community Pharmacy Services Agreement. As of 12 noon, on 11 September, 81 pharmacies had either signed or signalled their intent to sign Variation 1A. Variations 1A, or 1B, take effect from 1 October 2019, so long as ICPSA contract-holders have signalled their intent to sign one or the other to their DHB Pharmacy Portfolio Manager **by 5pm Tuesday September 17**.

If contract-holders decide to sign Variation 1A after 17 September, Additional Professional Advisory Services Payment (APAS) payments will not begin until January. The option Variation 1B is only available until 17 September. More information about the contract choices is in the table below.

ICPSA – variation choices for contract-holders	
Contract-holders can sign ICPSA Variation 1A	Total Additional Professional Advisory Services (APAS) funding \$18 million <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$9.6 million of new APAS 2019-20 funding PLUS• \$8.4 million of APAS 2018-19 funding Clauses covering location, equity, and audit have been updated
OR Contract-holders can sign ICPSA Variation 1B	Total APAS funding \$8.4 million <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$8.4 million of APAS 2018-19 funding continues All other clauses identical to ICPSA 1 October 2018
OR Contract-holders can sign neither variation and stay on ICPSA 1 October 2018	No APAS funding <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In ICPSA 1 October 2018 all APAS funding ceases on 30 September 2019.

More information about the Variations can be found on the TAS website at: <https://tas.health.nz/dhb-programmes-and-contracts/community-pharmacy-programme/icpsa/icpsa-variations-offer-2019/>



September ICPSA payments for contract-holders

Claim/Batch Payments: September 5, September 12, September 20, September 30

Case Mix Service Fees: September 2

Monthly LTC Service Fees: September 10

Additional Professional Advisory Services (APAS) Payment: September 16

The ICPSA Payment Calendar for the Oct 1 2019 to Sep 30 2020 period is currently being updated and will be available on the TAS website shortly.

Latest pack fee rate review

The pack fee rate for the quarter beginning 1 October 2019 has been reviewed and set at 25.5 cents (the rate for the previous quarter was 25.6 cents). Pack fee payments are an additional margin payment (volume-based) towards the procurement and stockholding costs for a pharmaceutical.

The pack fee is reviewed on a quarterly basis to take into account any changes in the pack size of pharmaceuticals as listed on PHARMAC's Pharmaceutical Schedule.

To view earlier pack fee rates [click here](#)

First meeting of National Annual Agreement Review 2019-20 – all welcome

November sees the first meeting of the next National Annual Agreement Review, which will look at potential Variations to the Integrated Community Pharmacy Services Agreement from 1 October 2020. The meeting, on 19 November in Wellington, is open to all contract-holders and/or their representatives.

All contract-holders will receive an email from their DHB Pharmacy Portfolio Managers in October, inviting them to represent themselves in the next National Annual Agreement Review, or be represented by a person or organisation other than the five existing provider representatives.

The five provider representatives who will participate in the next National Annual Agreement Review are Countdown Pharmacy, Green Cross Health, Nirvana Pharmacy Group, Pharmacy Guild of New Zealand and Pharmacy Partners.

Any contract-holder who does not wish to wait for the email from their DHB, and wishes to register interest in attending the first meeting, is welcome to email pharmacy@tas.health.nz

The ICPSA contract is evergreen - it has no end-date. The contract is reviewed annually through the National Annual Agreement Review, which looks principally at the nationally consistent parts of the contract, and considers any reasonable cost pressures. It can recommend changes to DHB Chief Executives, and if approved, those changes would be offered to contract-holders as a Variation and take effect from 1 October each year.

You can find more information about the National Annual Agreement Review, including

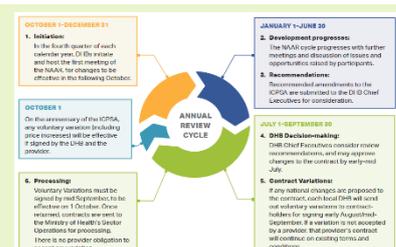
- Terms of Reference
- Minutes of previous meetings

at <https://tas.health.nz/dhb-programmes-and-contracts/community-pharmacy-programme/icpsa/>

Review cycle of the ICPSA

A visual representation of the National Annual Agreement Review, which explains each step in the review cycle is available to download from the Community Pharmacy programme webpages.

<https://tas.health.nz/assets/Community-pharmacy/ICSPA-National-Annual-Agreement-Review-Diagram.pdf>



Whakanuia Te Reo Māori

During the month of Mahuru (September) there are two major opportunities to whakanuia (celebrate), raise awareness and learn Te Reo Rangatira.

Te Wiki o te Reo Māori (9-15 Mahuru) and Mahuru Māori 2019 (running throughout this month) provide concentrated platforms at a national and local level to revitalise the Māori language and encourage all New Zealanders to 'Kia kaha te Reo Maori' (Let's make the Māori language strong).

Community pharmacies and the pharmacy sector can play a role in making the Māori language strong through supporting this important kaupapa.

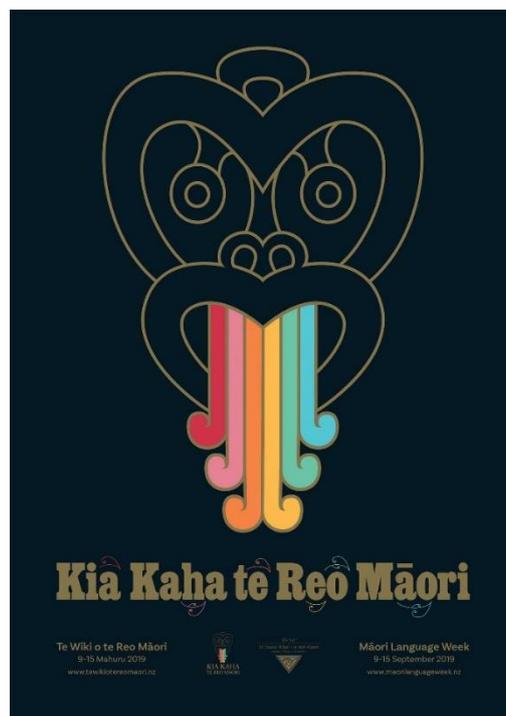
Below are a list of some helpful rauemi (resources) to use not only this month, but also beyond:

<https://www.mahurumaori.com/>

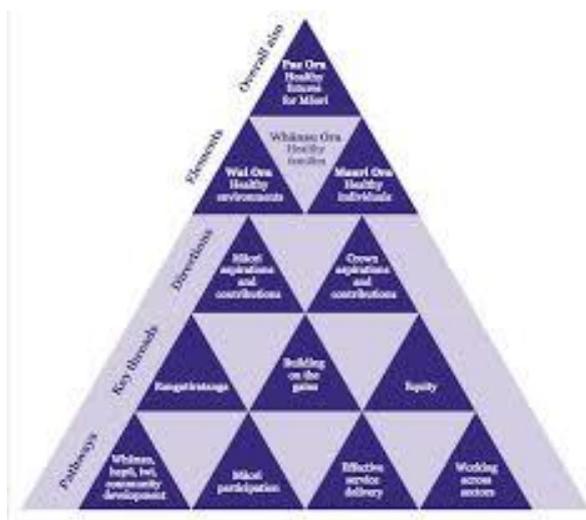
<https://www.tewikiotereomaori.co.nz/2019-resources/>

<https://www.healthnavigator.org.nz/apps/a/aki-hauora-app/>

<https://kupu.maori.nz/>



Māori Health Action Plan consultation



The Ministry of Health is working with Māori and the health and disability sector to develop a Māori Health Action Plan (2020-2025) to support and further embed He Korowai Oranga, the Māori Health Strategy. This will be an important tool ensuring the health and disability sector is working collaboratively to deliver high-quality and effective services that support Māori health and wellbeing.

You can now have your say about the Māori Health Action Plan via the Ministry of Health's online engagement tool. You can also send written submissions and general feedback by email: maorihealth@health.govt.nz.

Feedback on the Māori Health Action Plan (2020-2025) is due by Friday 20 September 2019.

Health and Disability System Review interim report released

The Health and Disability System Review Panel led by Panel Chair, Heather Simpson, released its interim report recently. The report reflects the submissions the Panel has received, the feedback from the many meetings attended around the country, and the analysis undertaken over the past several months.

The interim report features likely reform themes and directions, however more discussion and evaluation is to follow before recommendations are released in the Panel's final report, due by 30 March 2020.

For more information, and to download the interim report go to <https://systemreview.health.govt.nz/>



He Tohu Mauri Ora/NZ Primary Healthcare Awards nominations open

The inaugural New Zealand Primary Healthcare Awards/ He Tohu Mauri Ora, were recently announced by co-hosts The Health Media Ltd, and the Pharmacy Guild of New Zealand.

Nominations and entries are invited for 20 categories covering pharmacy, general practice, nursing, practice management and industry suppliers. The 20 categories will include three awards specifically for pharmacy – Community Pharmacy of the Year, Community Pharmacist of the Year and Community Pharmacy Technician of the year. Many other awards celebrating collaboration and excellence will be open to pharmacy staff.

Entries close 10 November 2019

The awards ceremony will be held in Auckland on 29 February 2020.

To learn how to enter a nomination: <https://www.nzphawards.co.nz/enter>

To find out 12 brilliant ways to make your award entry really stand out: <https://www.nzphawards.co.nz/winning-awards-entry>

2019 measles outbreak information

From 1 January 2019 to 11 September 2019 there had been 1172 confirmed cases of measles notified across New Zealand. 970 of these confirmed cases were in the Auckland region. The Ministry of Health has created a website page providing up-to-date information for the public and health care professionals about the latest outbreak.

<https://www.health.govt.nz/your-health/conditions-and-treatments/diseases-and-illnesses/measles/2019-measles-outbreak-information>

Whakapā mai/Contact Us



pharmacy@tas.health.nz



<https://tas.health.nz/dhb-programmes-and-contracts/community-pharmacy-programme/>



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The Community Pharmacy Services Programme is facilitated by TAS on behalf of all 20 District Health Boards in New Zealand.



All District Health Boards