



# Rongoā

The newsletter of the DHBs' Community Pharmacy Services programme



Hakihea – December 2019 | Panui 14

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**Ngā mihi o te wa o te Kirihimete me te tau hou. Anei ngā pitopito kōrero o te panui tekau ma wha o Rongoā. Seasons Greetings and welcome to the fourteenth edition of Rongoā – the monthly newsletter (panui) of the District Health Boards' (DHBs') Community Pharmacy Services programme.**

The TAS Community Pharmacy Programme, on behalf of the 20 DHBs, wish you and your respective whanau a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and safe New Year.

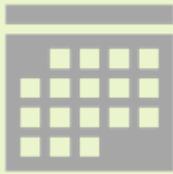
*If you have any suggestions for future topics for 2020, please drop us a line at: [pharmacy@tas.health.nz](mailto:pharmacy@tas.health.nz)  
If you would like to subscribe to Rongoā, email: [pharmacy@tas.health.nz](mailto:pharmacy@tas.health.nz)*

## First meeting of National Annual Agreement Review 2019-20

The first meeting for the National Annual Agreement Review 2019-20 of the Integrated Community Pharmacy Services Agreement took place on 19 November in Wellington. Present were DHB and Ministry of Health representatives, eight provider representative organisations, and two independent contract-holders. Among the provider representatives present (including Pharmacy Guild of New Zealand, Green Cross Health, Nirvana Pharmacy Group, Pharmacy Partners and Countdown Pharmacy) were Bargain Chemist, Chemist Warehouse and Midland Community Pharmacy Group, who joined the Review process for the first time.

The first meeting set the scene for the Review and was positive and collaborative. Discussion included progress of the Schedule 1 Review, cost pressures, the pharmacist workforce, MMR vaccinations by pharmacists, and timing of the end of 2018-19 year 'Final Case Mix Service Fee Payment'. Minutes of the meeting will be published in early 2020, and we will let you know when that occurs. Two further meetings have been scheduled for February and March. The Annual Review must be completed by the end of June, so recommendations can go to DHB Chief Executives and any changes to the contract arising from the Review can take place before the contract's second anniversary date of 1 October 2020.

**For more information [click on this link, which takes you to the Community Pharmacy webpage.](#)**



## Upcoming ICPSA payments for contract-holders

**Claim/Batch Payments:** 6 Jan, 13 Jan, 20 Jan, 28 Jan.

**Case Mix Service Fees:** Jan 3

**Monthly LTC Service Fees:** 13 Jan.

**Additional Professional Advisory Services (APAS) Payment:**

APAS payments for Jan to Mar will be calculated in December.

The first payment is due 14 Jan 2020.

For the full 12 month calendar, download the [ICPSA Payment Calendar here](#).

## No change to latest pack fee

The pack fee rate for the quarter beginning 1 January 2020 has been reviewed and set at 25.5 cents (the same rate as the previous quarter). Pack fee payments are an additional margin payment (volume-based) towards the procurement and stockholding costs for a pharmaceutical.

For more info go to: <https://tas.health.nz/assets/Community-pharmacy/Pack-Fee-Table-Final.pdf>

## ICPSA Monitoring Report updated for December.

Just a reminder that the ICPSA Monitoring Report is updated monthly and has been updated for December. This interactive report provides a quick overview of how key pharmacy activities and expenditure are tracking under the Integrated Community Pharmacy Services Agreement.

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

## NZePS Secure Messaging FAQs for pharmacies and practices

The NZ ePrescription Service (NZePS) provides a secure messaging channel for prescribing and dispensing systems to exchange prescription information electronically. It enables a prescription to be generated by the prescriber, transmitted to the NZePS health information exchange broker, and downloaded electronically at a community pharmacy. The Ministry of Health have added a new NZePS Secure Messaging FAQs document for pharmacies and practices, which can be downloaded from the NZePS webpage.

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/digital-health/other-digital-health-initiatives/emedicines/new-zealand-eprescription-service#faq>

If you have any further queries about the service, please contact the MoH online helpdesk: [onlinehelpdesk@health.govt.nz](mailto:onlinehelpdesk@health.govt.nz)

### Whakapā mai/Contact Us



[pharmacy@tas.health.nz](mailto: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**