

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
NORTHLAND DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD  
HOSPITAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

---

**HELD ON MONDAY 22 AUGUST 2016  
TANGIHUA MEETING ROOM, TOHORA HOUSE, WHANGAREI HOSPITAL**

**COMMENCING AT 9.00 AM**

**PRESENT**

Tony Norman (Acting Chair)  
Sally Macauley  
Chris Reid

John Bain  
Libby Jones  
Denise Jensen

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Nick Chamberlain, Meng Cheong, Andrew Potts, Neil Beney, Ian McKenzie, Harold Wereta, Sam Bartrum, Margareth Brookkoorn, Jeanette Wedding, Mike Roberts, Kathryn Leydon, Jodie Moselen (notes)

**FIRE PROCEDURES**

The fire exits were noted

**KARAKIA**

Harold Wereta

**APOLOGIES**

Bill Sanderson

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The Chair reminded Board members that in keeping with agreed protocol, conflicts of interest should be declared on a meeting-by-meeting basis as issues arise

- Sally Macauley no longer Chair of the NZ Lotteries Board World War One Commemorations. The register will be updated to reflect these changes
- Libby Jones is now a Member for Rural Health Alliance Aotearoa NZ Expert Advisory Group on Rural Mental Health and Addictions. The register has been updated to reflect this change

**1. COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**1.1 Confirmation of Minutes**

An amendment was agreed to the minutes regarding the presentation from Dr Lisa Dawson. It has been noted that Dr Dawson was asked if she feels that rural patients were getting the same treatment as those located centrally, Dr Dawson advised she feels they are getting the same treatment

**It was moved that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2016 be approved with the above noted**

**MOVED Sally Macauley SECONDED Denise Jensen CARRIED**

## **1.2 Matters/Actions Arising**

### **Presentation on obesity and diabetes**

- It has been agreed this presentation will be moved to the March 2017 meeting

### **Presentation on new Mental Health model of care**

- The new model of care is still being developed
- It was agreed to move this presentation to the April 2017 meeting

## **2. CHAIR'S REPORT**

- There was no report from the Committee Chair

## **3. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **3.1 Nursing Workforce Strategy: Presentation – Margareth Broodkoorn, Director of Nursing and Midwifery**

- The current nursing workforce strategy plan is taken from the Te Pae Mahutonga model
- This strategy plan is due to end this year with a new plan being revised. This plan will look at another three years going forward
- Northland's current nursing headcount is about 1500, this includes nurses located at Northland DHB as well as nurses within NGO's, Maori health providers, primary health care and aged care
- NDHB has 50 core midwives and 50 independent midwives located within the community
- The current average age for a nurse working within Northland DHB is 47 years old – this is on par with the national statistics
- There has been on-going work to improve the collection of ethnicity data by getting staff to identify their ethnicity when applying for roles at Northland DHB
- The New Entry to Practice Programme (NETP) is a fixed, one year term contract that has two intakes per year. This programme recruits into Northland DHB, the primary health care sector, Maori providers as well as aged care placements. This programme aims for 100% employment for those graduating.
- The Professional Development Recognition Programme (PDRP) is a programme to help assess nurses' competence. It is optional for nurses to do this programme. Northland DHB currently have 39% of the nursing staff on this programme
- Post Graduate Education is encouraged at Northland DHB. Uptake in this area has steadily increased over the past five years
- Northland DHB currently have nine Nurse Practitioners including five who identify as Maori. The Nurse Practitioners are endorsed by the Nursing Council and are able to prescribe to patients
- Nga Manukura o Apopo is a leadership programme targeting Maori Nurses and Midwives with currently 260 people on the programme
- It was noted that Northland DHB work with local schools and colleges to promote health force careers for students once they finish high school

## 4. SYSTEMS PERFORMANCE

### 4.1 Operational Report

#### Overview

##### Safety & Quality

- Most acute services remain busy
- The staff influenza vaccination rate has increased to approximately 79% which is the highest rate Northland DHB has seen in recent years
- Implementation of the recommendations from the Mental Health review are progressing well
- There has been a reduction in the number of patients with acute rheumatic fever

##### Service Delivery

- ESPI compliance was regained for June
- Colonoscopy waiting times were achieved for June

##### Surgical

- Acute surgical caseweights for 2015/16 exceeded the budgeted level by 730
- Site planners, Kleins, have advised there is sufficient evidence to support space from the previous maternity ward being converted into an elective operating theatre and endoscopy suite
- The additional 50 surgical operations commissioned by the Ministry of Health were completed in June. To do this Northland DHB used both outsourcing and weekend operating lists

##### Outpatients/Cancer and Blood Services

- Work is being done on the breast cancer pathway as there has been deterioration in performance against this target recently. Breast Cancer is the highest volume of cancer that Northland DHB treats. Performance against the target expected to improve over the next quarter as the pathway review continues
- Northland DHB has started providing treatments for advanced melanoma and hepatitis C. This has resulted in pressure on services due to an increasing numbers of patients receiving the treatments

##### Radiology

- The six week waiting time for non-urgent CT and MRI scans is improving. These delays are primarily held up by the two Radiologist vacancies. Advertising has been completed with one Radiologist appointed and the recruitment process is underway with advertising for the second vacancy
- A discussion was held regarding having a future plan in place as the need for CT and MRI scans is increasing at approximately 10% per year. Chief Medical Officer discussed the 'Choose Wisely' initiative which, once implemented, may alter test requests. The 'Choose Wisely' discussion will be revisited once more information is received

##### Pathology Services

- Interim upgrade of the laboratory is about to commence. This will enable IANZ accreditation to be maintained

##### Older People and Clinical Support

- Favourable results for screening programmes were achieved this month
- There has been an increase in caseloads
- Work is being done to reduce the increased number of falls on the ward. The regional target is one fall for every 100,000 bed days
- Request for target information to be included in the report narrative

##### Medical

- Average length of stay days and readmissions are down this month
- There is work being completed on improving patient flows. This has been helped by nurses completing discharges over the weekend once approved by Senior Medical Officers and required paper work completed
- An extra 8 beds were added over the past year

#### Renal

- Planning is underway for 2017 growth including looking at increasing the number of patients receiving dialysis at home. Some key issues effecting if patients can receive dialysis at home include making sure the patient has the correct water supply standards and having someone at home with them whilst receiving treatment

#### Mental Health

- The Mental Health services are currently working on the integration of acute spectrum services
- There continues to be staffing vacancies in the Mental Health service
- On-going work is being done on implementing the recommendations from the Mental Health review to make sure that the growth in this area maximises benefit
- A proposal is being drafted for a foetal alcohol syndrome service for Northland which, if accepted and implemented will help approximately 100 young mothers each year

#### District Hospitals

- Kaitaia and Dargaville hospitals remain quieter than Bay of Islands, which has been extremely busy this past month
- Dargaville Hospital are about to advertise and recruit for more Medical Officers

#### Paediatric

- June has been a busy month for SCBU with utilisation at 105.7%

#### Maternal

- The numbers of births continue to rise with 147 births recorded for June. Previous months had on average 120 births. This is in-line with a National trend
- There is still a high number of teenage mothers, mothers who smoke during pregnancy and mothers who consume alcohol whilst pregnant

#### School Based, Community and Oral Health

- The fluoride varnish programme is underway at many local schools with the programme running at each school twice per year

#### Public Health

- The last year saw just one rheumatic fever case, this can be attributed partly to the great prevention work in schools and the wider community

### 4.2 Financial Report

- The Chief Financial Officer spoke to the financial report for June
- Over expenditure for the month of June was driven by high levels of activity, especially in the cancer centre and outpatients
- Work is currently being completed for the Annual Report
- June had a lower cost than normal for locums, July will be higher as this will include the hours to complete the colonoscopy lists

### 5. NEXT MEETING DETAILS

The next meeting will be held at 9.00am, Monday 03 October 2016, at the St John Ambulance Hall, Kawakawa

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.36am

**Confirmed that these minutes constitute a true and correct record of the proceedings of the meeting.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE