



Minutes of Meeting Northland District Health Board Equity in Hospitals Committee

9.00am, Monday 08 March 2021
Tangihua Room, Tohora House, Whangārei Hospital

Present

Mataroria Lyndon (Chair)	Harry Burkhardt	Ngaire Rae
Carol Peters	Kyle Eggleton	Sally Macauley
Debbie Evans (via zoom)	Libby Jones	Vince Cocurullo

In Attendance

Northland DHB: Nick Chamberlain, Jeanette Wedding, Mark McGinley, Tracey Schiebli, Maree Sheard, Ian McKenzie, Mike Roberts (from 09.30), Kathryn Leydon, Andrew Mardon, Sarah Fox (minutes) Shameer Sathar (part)

Member of the public: Beryl Wilkinson

Apologies

Apologies were received from John Bain.

The Chair opened the meeting with a karakia.

1. COMMITTEE MINUTES

1.1 Confirmation of Minutes 16 November 2020

IT WAS MOVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 16 November 2020 be accepted.

Mataroria Lyndon / Vince Cocurullo

1.2 Confirmation of Minutes 25 January 2021

IT WAS MOVED THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2021 be accepted.

**Mataroria Lyndon / Carol Peters
Carried**

2. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair:

- Welcomed Tracey Schiebli, the new General Manager Medical and Elder Services.
- Noted the ongoing COVID-19 level changes and the mahi being done within the hospitals in response to these.
- Highlighted Northland DHB kaimahi contribution to the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists' Cultural Safety and Leadership Hui held in Waitangi recently.
- Asked that challenges regarding the Faster Cancer Treatment (FCT) and elective surgery targets be highlighted in the discussion of the operational report.

3. SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

3.1 Operational Report

The GM Rural, Family & Community Health highlighted the following points from the operational report:

- Coding had been impacted due to the Christmas holiday break.
- Cancer and Blood Services waiting lists had grown over the reporting period and there was a focus on reversing this trend.

- A key focus for Kaitaia Hospital was the opening of a second theatre and the roll-out of national bowel-screening programme.
- **Action:** A presentation on paediatric ASH rates for tamariki Māori will be brought to a future meeting.

There was discussion on the following points:

- The Committee appreciated the more detailed reporting for rural hospitals and news of the second theatre at Kaitaia was well-received.
- Faster cancer treatment (FCT) pathway waiting times and the difference between Māori and non-Māori access to first specialist appointments.
It was noted that there had been a significant increase in the number of referrals to the FCT pathway. There were issues with the current triage process which was very time-consuming and increased resource had been put in place to make improvements. Progress updates would be provided in the Cancer and Blood Services operational reports.
There are Māori navigators within the service and re-development of pathways should provide further assistance in addressing inequities.
Action: Report on specific strategies to address FCT waiting times for Māori and non-Māori to the next meeting.
There was discussion on accommodation and other support available from The Cancer Society and the Duncan Foundation in Whangārei.
- The Committee was pleased to see the workforce statistics and be able to keep tracking these figures.
- Risk remains with planned care volumes and waiting time reductions. Last year's targets would have been met were it not for COVID. The MoH acknowledges the localised risk around theatre capacity and note that two new theatres will be opening at Whangārei hospital this year which will alleviate the risk. NDHB is confident that base-rate target volumes will be met.
- 'Babies Living in Smokefree Homes' data shows Northland only has 29% of Māori pēpē in homes that are smokefree. Would like to see investigation into opportunities to further support hapū māma to quit smoking. This would be discussed further in the Board meeting.
- The Child Development Service reported a large increase in Allied Health referrals. Additional funding had been received as part of a northern region project but demand continues to increase.
- It was noted that goal figures for helicopter flights were incorrect. A gradual increase in demand had been seen as the Northland population increased. The cost of helicopter flights were fixed by national negotiations and would increase next year.
Action: Helicopter flight figures will be investigated and reported back next month.
- It was noted that the reported service activity contained in the operational reports was out-of-date by the time they were discussed at Committee meetings and often steps had been taken in the interim to rectify issues. It was suggested that the reports be formatted to focus on issues and initiatives identified

3.2 Ambulatory Sensitive Hospitalisation (ASH) Rates presentation – Mike Roberts, CMO, and Shameer Sathar, Data Scientist

- Data showed that there were higher ASH rates for Māori than non-Māori across Te Tai Tokerau.
- This recently-developed tool would be helpful in showing where to direct interventions to improve equity.
- There was discussion on strategies already in place across the DHB and within the community.

4. NEXT MEETING DETAILS

The next meeting will be 9.00am on Monday 19 April 2021 at Te Waka Hauora, Kaitaia Hospital

5. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

IT WAS MOVED THAT the public be excluded from the following part of this meeting, under Schedule 3, Clause 32 of the NZ Public Health & Disability Act 2000 and in accordance with the Official Information Act 1982 as detailed in the table below.

Agenda item and general subject of the matter to be discussed		Reason	Reference
6.0	Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes 6.1 Confirmation of Minutes 25 January 2021 6.2 Matters/Action Arising	For the reasons previously given	

Mataroria Lyndon / Vince Cocurullo
CARRIED

Part II

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes were confirmed.

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

CHAIR _____ DATE _____

The meeting closed at 10.00am

**Actions Arising from the Minutes of the
Northland District Health Board Equity in Hospitals Committee Meeting
Monday 08 March 2021**

Actions Brought Forward		Who	When	Comments
1.	Report on colonoscopy service rates	GM Surgical and Support Services	19 April 2021	Paper attached
2.	Report on specific strategies to address FCT waiting times for Māori and non-Māori to the next meeting.	GM Surgical and Support Services	19 April 2021	Paper attached
3.	Helicopter flight figures will be investigated and reported back next month.	Acting CFO	19 April 2021	See Operational Report
4.	Report on tracking for each area for uplift in Māori staff and specific initiatives.	GM PIPP and GM Māori Health	31 May 2021	
5.	Present a report on findings from the exit surveys	GM PIPP	31 May 2021	
6.	Information on ED initiatives to be presented for discussion at a future meeting.	GM Medical & Elder Services	31 May 2021	
7.	A report on termination of pregnancy services, showing national and local data, would be provided to the Committee in May 2021, which would reflect one year under the new legislation. It was requested that the report also include information on access to contraception.	GM Rural, Community and Family	31 May 2021	
8.	Provide a report on the sleep service in mid-2021.	GM Surgical and Support Services and GM Medical & Elder Services	12 July 2021	
9.	Presentation on paediatric ASH rates for tamariki Māori will be brought to a future meeting.	GM Rural, Community and Family	TBC	