Kia Ora Tatou,

Spring is here and with it news that the incidence of flue has been lower than usual through winter. Unfortunately, and as expected, the health system has remained busy throughout winter. There are many projects – small and large being undertaken across our professions to enable us to continuously improve our service so that we can improve both the quality of what we deliver and the ability to reach more people with our services when needed. Please continue to raise and share your ideas for how we innovate and improve the way we are able to deliver services to our consumers and wider population.

### Professional News and Updates:

**New Zealand Healthcare Seeks British ODPs with ‘new life’ immigration opportunities**

New Zealand has stepped up its quest to fill specific healthcare vacancies with a new recruitment drive focused on attracting UK qualified operating department practitioners (ODPs). Known as anaesthetic technicians (ATs) in New Zealand, the role is similar to that of an ODP with a narrower scope of practice. The recruitment video was made using anaesthetic technicians from Wellington Hospital and can be reviewed here [Kiwi Health Jobs](http://www.kiwihealthjobs.com/anaesthetic-tech-campaign).

Meanwhile as part of the same campaign, the sonographers at Hutt Hospital have also been filmed for overseas recruitment drives. You can view the film here [http://www.kiwihealthjobs.com/anaesthetic-tech-campaign](http://www.kiwihealthjobs.com/anaesthetic-tech-campaign).

**Health Pathways**

Health pathways has now localised more than 200 pathways to be used in patient management across primary care in the wider Wellington region. Thanks to all the AHS&T staff that have so far inputted into the pathways work. It’s appreciated you taking the time to input into this valuable work to help ensure patients in the wider Wellington region benefit from the expert care of AHS&T staff.

Nick Clode the AHS&T pathways co-ordinator is busy working on localising the request pathways for the larger Allied Health Professional Groups. He will then concentrate energies on ensuring AHS&T staff are involved with developing clinical content for new pathways, alongside GPs and specialists.

**Connecting for Integrated Care**

On Wednesday 10 August, Wairarapa, Hutt Valley and Capital & Coast DHBs joined forces with Allied Health Aotearoa New Zealand (AHANZ) to hold the inaugural networking event for Allied Health, Scientific and Technical (AHST) professions. The event was held at the Walter Nash Centre in Taita, and the theme for the evening was ‘Connecting for Integrated Care’. Ashley Bloomfield, CEO of Hutt Valley DHB provided the opening welcome, and acknowledged the strong voice of AHST professionals and their role in promoting and practising integrated care.
20 different professions were represented across DHBs, primary care and private practice, and attendees had the opportunity to listen to interesting and stimulating presentations from Music Therapy, Acupuncture, Chiropractic, Physiotherapy, Psychology, Dietetics and Psychotherapy about their roles in various health contexts. There were plenty of opportunities for networking and connecting over refreshments, followed by a lively discussion based on a case study of the journey of a patient with diabetes who has a stroke, considering the optimal provision of integrated Allied Health involvement at the different stages.

Catherine Epps, Executive Director for AHST at Capital & Coast DHB provided the closing remarks, calling for interested parties to be involved in making these networking forums a regular event for AHST professions in the wider Wellington region. There has already been some interest in taking this initiative further – if anyone else is interested in contributing to discussions about how these may look in the future, please contact Vicky Ryan, 3DHB AHST Educator.

**AHS&T 3DHB Strategic Approach:**

Earlier this year, leaders of Allied Health, Scientific & Technical professions completed a survey on data – both data collected and data used to make decisions. This newsletter provides some key themes from the survey. The Allied Health, Scientific & Technical leaders will continue to work together on improving the data we collect in order to have the ability to make better decisions.

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**Health Informatics – what is it?**

Health informatics deals with the storage, retrieval, sharing, and optimal use of data and considers how we use this knowledge for problem solving and decision making.

**Is it just about technology?**

Health informatics is about much more than technology. For example, you may use technology to collect the data, and you might store the data in a computer, but health informatics is more concerned with what you do with the data after you have collected it.

- When and how is it shared?
- When is it kept private?
- How do you read and translate the data?
- What does it tell you?
- What do you do with that knowledge?

**Want to know more?**

Health Informatics New Zealand (HiNZ) is a not-for-profit organisation that supports the field of health informatics. [http://www.hinz.org.nz/](http://www.hinz.org.nz/)

Next conference: 31 October 2016, Auckland
Congratulations to Sue Wragg, who has commenced her role as the Allied Health, Scientific and Technical Director for the Central Cancer Network. This is a move into covering a more expanded work programme from her work as the Social Work Director for the network. The aim of the role is to bring a different perspective to the table around a variety of quality improvement initiatives in cancer and provide additional links back to the wider workforce. The network covers the seven DHB regions of the lower North Island and contributes to both regional and national initiatives involving both Health and NGO organisations. The role compliments Sue’s other role within the network as project manager for He Anga Whakaahuru (Supportive Care Framework) and allows a different lens to be utilised on a variety of service development initiatives ensuring supportive care is valued and recognised within the wider cancer programme.

Despite the Midcentral email address Sue remains based at Wellington Hospital and is happy to be contacted at sue.wragg@midcentraldhb.govt.nz, or 021 026 72222.
Professional Development:

Below are some internal and external learning opportunities which may interest you:

**September 2016**

From 9th September, **Non-Governmental Organisations** providing health and disability services funded by the Ministry of Health or District Health Board across New Zealand will be given access to **free CALD cultural competency online training and Auckland-based face-to-face courses**.

For further information about courses and resources, eligibility, cost and registration details please visit [www.eCALD.com](http://www.eCALD.com).

**Tu Kaha Conference**, 21 – 23rd September 2016, Silverstream Retreat, Lower Hutt

Tu Kaha promotes and celebrates success in the Māori health industry. The overarching theme for the conference is “Mō Tātou - just as it takes a village to raise a child, it takes us all to raise the status of Māori Health.”

Visit the [website](http://www.eCALD.com) to register and for more information.

**October 2016**

**3DHB Introduction to Professional Supervision**, 11 & 18 October 2016 – space is still available. This course is for 3DHB allied health staff working in general health who wish to become professional supervisors.

For more information see [Introduction to Professional Supervision](http://www.eCALD.com) or book through [Connect Me](http://www.eCALD.com) (CCDHB staff only).

**Career and Salary Progression (CASP)**, 26 October (CCDHB) and 27 October (Hutt Valley and Wairarapa DHBs)

All Allied Health staff who are on the Allied Health PSA MECA and are thinking about entering into the CASP process should attend this course. Participants will gain an understanding of the CASP process including eligibility, roles and responsibilities, documentation and templates, what the CASP domains mean and how they apply to you.

For more information see [CASP Training](http://www.eCALD.com) or book through [Connect Me](http://www.eCALD.com) (CCDHB staff only).

**November 2016**

**4th World Congress on Integrated Care**, 23 – 25th November 2016, Wellington

“Investing in our Future: Improving the Health of People and Communities.” The aim of this conference is to exchange knowledge, experience and new ideas in the design and delivery of integrated health and social care. For information visit the [website](http://www.eCALD.com).

**eLearning:**

Don’t forget you can access the following eLearning courses via Connect Me (CCDHB staff) or Ko Awatea (Hutt Valley and Wairarapa DHB staff). Both take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

- **Supervisee eLearning:** This course introduces the definition, functions and requirements of supervision and prepares supervisees for making the most of their supervision.

- **Objective setting and portfolio development:** This course is designed for those wishing to develop skills in writing professional development objectives in the SMART (Specific, Measureable, Achievable, Realistic, Time bound) format. It will also introduce the requirements of a professional portfolio and provide practical tips to assist practitioners to create and maintain a professional portfolio.

A reminder of the free Level 1 Advance Care Planning eLearning available through the [Advance Care Planning](http://www.eCALD.com) website: The eLearning is split into 4 modules and takes around 90 minutes in total. It provides a great foundation of knowledge of advance care planning and is relevant for all health professionals.

If you wish to contribute anything to this newsletter for sharing please get in touch with Sue.Fleming@ccdhb.org.nz or Bridget.Fraser@huttvalleydhb.org.nz.