

Update to WellSouth Service Schedule and other funded programmes

28 April 2020

Background

WellSouth wants to provide guidance to practices about the operation of WellSouth programmes covered by the *WellSouth Service Specifications – May 2019*, and two non-WellSouth funded programmes.

The WellSouth programmes set out in the Service Specifications are operating as usual, except as indicated in the Comment column of the table below:

1. some of these programmes can be done wholly or in part virtually
2. some of these programmes have been updated.

If a programme is not listed in the table below, there is no change to that programme.

This advice is in effect from 28 April 2020 until further notice.

For more information, please contact your Practice Network Manager.

WellSouth programmes

<i>Programme</i>	<i>Comment</i>
CLIC	<p>CHAs can be done virtually.</p> <p>Care plans and MDTs are not required, but should be considered in some situations, before 30 June 2020.</p> <p>See the WellSouth daily update email sent 6 April for further detail.</p>

CVD Risk Assessment	<p>Can be done virtually.</p> <p>Find eligible patients in the Thalamus Proactive Care report.</p> <p>Find patients with recent (as determined by your practice) labs and BP/smoking/family history/classification.</p>
CVD Management Programme	<p>Care planning can be done virtually.</p> <p>Follow up visit(s) can be virtual.</p>
Diabetes—Insulin Initiation	<p>Consider virtual consultation if initiation is need urgently and is clinically appropriate.</p>

Sexual Health	<p>Can be done virtually in some situations, eg scripts, and depending on clinical presentation.</p>
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National Screening Programmes	<p>The move to Government COVID-19 Alert Level 3 means gradually resumption of national breast and cervical screening programmes, however bowel screening will not to resume at this time.</p> <p>Further information from the Ministry was sent to practices on 25 April in the WellSouth daily update email, and is available via the National Screening Unit website COVID-19 webpage at https://www.nsu.govt.nz/health-professionals/covid-19-information-screening-providers.</p> <p>Information for participants about cancer screening programmes will be available at www.timetoscreen.nz and for antenatal and newborn screening programmes at www.nsu.govt.nz</p>
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Other programmes

HUHC

Now is a good time to do the paperwork for these (as this is quite time consuming), including considering new patients and renewing existing. Check the criteria at <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/primary-health-care/primary-health-care-subsidies-and-services/high-use-health-card>.

The Ministry of Health has confirmed:

- it is acceptable for the general practice team to obtain oral consent from the patient for the general practice to apply the HUHC on behalf of them, have the event documented and attached with their email application. This option fits with other enrolment processes being accepted in these circumstances.
- there appears to be no legislative requirement for the form of the HUHC application, i.e. there is nothing to stop applications being sent electronically by email, etc.
- during COVID-19, a virtual consultation counts as a consultation for the purposes of the 12 visits necessary for HUHC, as long as something is written in the patient notes.

ACC telehealth

ACC has extended its telehealth provisions, where clinically appropriate, by enabling:

- Telehealth consultations
- Remote lodgement (ACC45)
- Increase in time of work (ACC18)
- Increase in DNA allowance
- Reduced contractual compliance

For information on the provision of Telehealth services for ACC's clients, visit

<https://www.acc.co.nz/covid-19/providers>.