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WellSouth Update

23 June 2022

Kia ora koutou -

WellSouth Update is a regular e-newsletter for general practice teams, community pharmacy and other providers in Southland and Otago.

To subscribe or to provide feedback or submissions, please email communications@wellsouth.org.nz Thank you.

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Covid-19 oral anti-viral eligibility dashboard

A patient's eligibility for COVID oral antivirals is calculated according to the [PHARMAC criteria](#) for these medications.

We have been asked by practices to make available a Thalamus dashboard identifying their enrolled patients who are eligible for the oral antivirals.

We have developed this tool and it is now live for practices using MedTech32 or MedTech Evolution PMS. We will be providing the dashboard for practices using other practice

management systems in the coming days.

★ Common ^

ASH Practice Comparison

Claim Benchmarking

COVID-19 Dash (P)

COVID-19 High Risk Patients

COVID-19 Oral Antivirals

More information about the [eligibility criteria](#).

If you have questions, please contact your practice relationship manager.

PCR testing for patients who have previously had Covid

Southern is hosting a 3 month pilot of PCR testing in patients who present with symptoms having previously had COVID-19.

While national guidelines currently recommend supervised RAT for patients presenting to primary care, Public Health South recommends routinely using PCR testing for those presenting with symptoms that could be consistent with Covid-19, who have previously had Covid-19 (by previous RAT or PCR).

PCR-CT values will be used to distinguish between true acute reinfections and historical infections.

For further information, see [PCR Testing for COVID-19 Reinfection in Southern: A Pilot](#).

Please use SURV-REIN

PCR testing for arrivals

Reminder that anyone arriving in New Zealand is required to take a day 0/1 and a day 5/6 RAT test. If they test positive with their RAT, they require a PCR.

Please use SURV-SELF for these people as this will trigger whole genome sequencing.

Te Kāika testing and vaccination centres closing

This is the final week of operation for Te Kāika's Queenstown, Oamaru and Dunedin (Victoria Rd, South Dunedin) Covid-19 testing and vaccination sites.

The final day for the Queenstown site is today - Thursday June 23rd at 4:30PM - and the final day for Oamaru and Dunedin is this Sunday June 26th at 4:00PM.

Up-to-date information on where to access Covid testing is available on the WellSouth website.

[Where to get testing](#)

We would like to thank the Te Kāika team for all their extra work providing additional testing capacity and vaccination services over the past several, very busy, months.

Boosting vaccination rates among healthcare workers

The Ministry of Health is aiming for flu vaccination rates for health workers to be 80%.

To support health and disability workers not employed by DHBs, the Ministry of Health reimburse employers for the costs associated with vaccinating their patient and client-facing employees. This offer includes those working in (but not limited to):

- General practice
- Private hospitals
- Disability services
- Pharmacies
- Aged residential care facilities
- Hauora Māori and Pacific health practices

Reimbursement

Applications for flu vaccination reimbursement will be processed between 1 May 2022 and 30 September 2022. Guidance on applying for reimbursement can be found here:

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/influenza#reimbursement>

SDHB vaccination hub

The Southern Vaccine Hub is now a one-stop shop for the latest updates, information, and resources for vaccinators delivering COVID-19, Influenza, and MMR vaccinations in the Southern District.

Access the Southern Vaccine Hub here: www.southernhealth.nz/vaccine-hub.
This is a page for healthcare providers and should not be shared externally.



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