

November / Noema 2021

## Public Health Bulletin

Teena koutou katoa and Happy Diwali. We hope you enjoy the latest edition of the Public Health Bulletin.

### COVID-19 update

Auckland, Northland and parts of Waikato remain at Alert Level 3. The rest of New Zealand are at Alert Level 2.

### Testing

Anyone with cold, flu or COVID-19 symptoms are being advised to call Healthline, their GP or iwi health provider for guidance on whether they should get a COVID-19 test. The latest case definition and clinical guidelines for who should get a test are available [here](#).

Pop-up testing centres have been set up in Hamilton, Huntly, Te Awamutu, Ngaaruawaahia and Otorohanga. Drive through sites, which do not need bookings, are available in Hamilton city. For further testing sites and updates to the above, please check [www.waikatodhb.health.nz/cbac](http://www.waikatodhb.health.nz/cbac) or the DHB facebook page [www.facebook.com/WaikatoDHB](https://www.facebook.com/WaikatoDHB)

Thank you to those practices across the Waikato who continue to also conduct testing. For a full list of these locations and community testing centres, go to <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/covid-19/waikato/>.

### Vaccinations update

Everyone in New Zealand who is 12 years and over are eligible to get a vaccination. This includes everyone, no matter what their immigration status. People can book their vaccines online at Book My Vaccine – [www.bookmyvaccine.nz](http://www.bookmyvaccine.nz) – or by calling the COVID Vaccination Healthline on 0800 28 29 26 from 8am-8pm seven days a week. People do not have to wait for an invitation to book once they are eligible. Interpreters are available for people who ask. Please remember whaanau Maaori and Pacific families can be vaccinated together when one member of the family is eligible to be vaccinated.

Pacific people can also book vaccinations through K'aute Pasifika Trust by calling or texting 022 318 7151 or emailing [Robert.lavei@kautepasifika.co.nz](mailto:Robert.lavei@kautepasifika.co.nz).

### Super Saturday

Super Saturday on the 16 October 2021 was very successful, with 130,002 vaccinations delivered across Aotearoa New Zealand and 10,103 total vaccinations given out in the Waikato. 21,702 Maaori people across Aotearoa New Zealand received their vaccinations and 2,558 in the Waikato.



### The COVID-19 Protection Framework

The Government has announced the next stage of the COVID-19 response plan to provide a pathway out of lockdown and give vaccinated New Zealanders more freedom.

Once 90% of eligible New Zealanders are fully vaccinated and protected, the COVID-19 Protection Framework introduces a new flexible three-level approach to managing COVID-19 in the community:

- Green
- Orange
- Red

Testing, contact tracing, and isolation will continue as key tools to minimise any spread of the virus.

More information will be released in late November. The Unite against COVID-19 website has more information at: <https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-levels-and-updates/covid-19-protection/>

### Travel across alert level boundaries

Just a reminder that permits for travel across alert level boundaries are not issued by the Public Health Unit. Applications to cross boundaries can be made here: <https://personaltravelexemption.covid19.govt.nz/s> A list of permitted reasons to cross boundaries is available here: <https://covid19.govt.nz/travel/permitted-travel-at-different-alert-levels/personal-travel-across-an-alert-level-boundary/#if-your-personal-travel-is-permitted>

### MIQ room releases

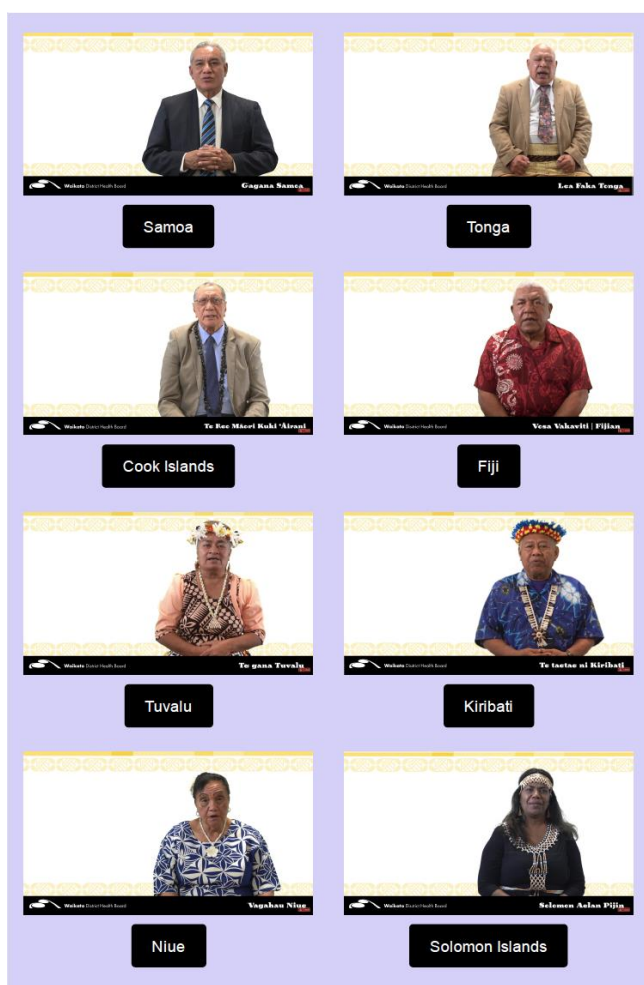
MIQ vouchers continue to be released via virtual lobby. MIQ's fifth voucher release took place on 21

Oct 2021. The virtual lobby is available here:  
<https://www.miq.govt.nz/travel-to-new-zealand/secure-your-place-in-managed-isolation/the-managed-isolation-booking-system/virtual-lobby/>

## COVID-19 messages from our Waikato Pacific community leaders

The below are links to messages from Pacific community leaders in the Waikato, recorded in different Pacific languages.

- Tuvalu: <https://youtu.be/9ZEuAGz11ao>
- Samoa: <https://youtu.be/xfgsQbXDYk0>
- Fiji: <https://youtu.be/8s7BJy-HVhs>
- Solomon: <https://youtu.be/Rz5NC56I2IM>
- Niue: <https://youtu.be/DsQeipRChLM>
- Tonga: <https://youtu.be/3ZsbuCge6Vs>
- Kiribati: <https://youtu.be/6S9bnZjD8k>
- Cook Island Maaori: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6n1ILQ5U5U>



The first of these walks was Waiora Waikato. With a short walk to Victoria on the river, Ikimoke and others presented the connection to the name Waiora Waikato gifted to site of the Waikato hospital.



## Welcome to new Public Health staff

Warm welcome to new staff joining the Public Health Unit – Hayley Berkers, Harry Luteru, and Smita Verma. Hayley Berkers is a Health Improvement Advisor (COVID-19). Hayley comes to us most recently from Sport Waikato where she was a team lead working within the DHB health contracts space. Harry Luteru is a Health Improvement Advisor. Harry comes to us from K’aute Pasifika where he was a Quit Coach/Health Promotor. Smita Verma is our new PGY2 house officer, and is interested in Environmental Health.



L-R: Hayley Berkers, Harry Luteru, and Smita Verma

## Waiora Waikato hikoi

Our Director of Tikanga, Ikimoke Tamaki-Takarei; and other members of his Directorate including Mark Waitai have been based at the Waiora CBD site during the COVID-19 to help engage members of the community who are close contacts or cases with COVID-19. While they have been based with the Public Health Unit, they have been taking the opportunity to educate members about our whakapapa korero.

## Notifiable diseases – October 2021 compared to October 2020 (Waikato DHB)

No.	Disease name	Waikato <sup>1</sup>			YTD		
		2020	2021	Change 2020-2021	Waikato	National	% <sup>2</sup>
1	Botulism	0	0	0 -	0	1	0
2	Brucellosis	0	0	0 -	0	1	0
3	Campylobacteriosis	61	47	-14 ▼	425	4,038	11
4	COVID-19	0	123	123 ▲	139	4,459	3
5	Cryptosporidiosis	17	26	9 ▲	106	586	18
6	Decompression sickness	0	0	0 -	0	2	0
7	Dengue fever	0	0	0 -	1	7	14
8	Diarrhoeic shellfish poisoning	0	0	0 -	0	2	0
9	Diphtheria	0	0	0 -	0	0	-
10	Gastroenteritis - unknown cause	0	0	0 -	2	150	1
11	Gastroenteritis / foodborne intoxication	2	0	-2 ▼	13	63	21
12	Giardiasis	6	9	3 ▲	115	915	13
13	Haemophilus influenzae type b	0	0	0 -	1	6	17
14	Hepatitis A	0	1	1 ▲	1	11	9
15	Hepatitis B	0	0	0 -	1	16	6
16	Hepatitis C	0	0	0 -	0	36	0
17	Hepatitis NOS	0	0	0 -	4	9	44
18	Hydatid disease	0	0	0 -	0	2	0
19	Invasive pneumococcal disease	2	2	0 -	39	401	10
20	Latent tuberculosis infection	0	1	1 ▲	6	108	6
21	Lead Poisoning	1	1	0 -	22	366	6
22	Legionellosis	1	1	0 -	7	130	5
23	Leprosy	0	0	0 -	0	4	0
24	Leptospirosis	2	2	0 -	12	67	18
25	Listeriosis	0	0	0 -	1	24	4
26	Listeriosis - perinatal	0	0	0 -	1	3	33
27	Malaria	0	0	0 -	0	8	0
28	Measles	0	0	0 -	0	0	-
29	Meningococcal disease	1	0	-1 ▼	3	36	8
30	Mumps	0	0	0 -	0	3	0
31	Murine Typhus	0	0	0 -	1	1	100
32	Paratyphoid Fever	0	0	0 -	0	2	0
33	Pertussis	0	0	0 -	4	58	7
34	Q fever	0	0	0 -	0	0	-
35	Rheumatic fever - initial attack	0	0	0 -	10	71	14
36	Rheumatic fever - recurrent attack	0	0	0 -	1	7	14
37	Rickettsial disease	0	0	0 -	0	1	0
38	Ross River virus infection	0	0	0 -	0	1	0
39	Salmonellosis	8	5	-3 ▼	66	590	11
40	Shigellosis	0	0	0 -	0	6	0
41	Taeniasis	0	0	0 -	0	1	0
42	Tetanus	0	0	0 -	0	1	0
43	Toxic shellfish poisoning	0	0	0 -	0	2	0
44	Tuberculosis disease - new case	0	2	2 ▲	21	250	8
45	Tuberculosis disease - relapse or reactivation	0	0	0 -	0	11	0
46	Tuberculosis infection - on preventive treatment	0	0	0 -	0	6	0
47	Typhoid fever	0	0	0 -	0	2	0
48	VTEC/STEC infection	4	4	0 -	86	785	11
49	Yersiniosis	18	7	-11 ▼	93	1,181	8

<sup>1</sup>Number of cases. Source Waikato DHB.

<sup>2</sup>Waikato Year to Date (YTD) count as a proportion of national data.

**Medical Officers of Health:** Felicity Dumble – Richard Wall – Richard Vipond – Richard Hoskins – Geoff Cramp (COVID-19 support)

### After hours:

**MooH:** 021 359 650

**HPO:** 021 999 521

If there is no answer, please contact Waikato Hospital's switchboard 07 839 8899 and ask for the on-call MOoH.

### During office hours:

**Population Health (MOoH or HPO):** (07) 838 2569

**Notifications:** 07 838 2569 ext. 22041 or 22020

**Notifications outside Hamilton:** 0800 800 977

**Fax:** 07 838 2382

**Email:** [notifiablediseases@waikatodhb.health.nz](mailto:notifiablediseases@waikatodhb.health.nz)

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