



## Update for Central Region DHB CEOs and Boards - May 2009

### Introduction

RCSP activities are on track with the vulnerable services project and clinical networks continuing to make progress. Nominations for the Clinical Leadership Group will be considered this month. Communicating the plan will be a focus over the second half of the year.

### Programme team

In-kind resourcing of DHB members for programme team was not supported in the expressions of interest process last year so reorganising of TAS resources is being explored to fund this.

### Clinical Leadership Group

Nominations for this group of hospital service and primary clinicians were sought over April. There has been a good level of interest and the nominations will be considered by CEOs at their May meeting. The clinical leadership group will work in partnership with the steering group and will convene in June. While the group will need to meet face-to-face at times it is expected that the use of conferencing technology will be increasingly utilised to conduct regional business.

### Communications and stakeholder engagement

A detailed programme of communications will be developed once DHB communications managers provide feedback on the draft plan in early May. In the meantime an engagement summary document is being developed for DHBs to use as part of District Strategic Planning processes. It is hoped that this may also be suitable for use through DHBs and primary health providers.

### Primary Network

The steering group approved a Terms of Reference for a Primary Network to progress communicating the plan across the primary health sector. The network will be a virtual group that will work out how best to communicate with primary health. Essentially it will form the top of a communications tree that will be the contact link between the steering group and clinical leadership group and the wider primary sector.

### The RCSP implementation work programme

#### **Vulnerable services**

Development of a stocktake survey is nearing completion and the group of senior DHB clinicians and managers continue to provide guidance to the process. The group have developed the following set of draft principles (summarised).

- *The project will do more than assess the problem, its about outcomes and solutions*
- *Acknowledgment that many services have vulnerabilities or pressure points*
- *A regional lens is necessary as a problem in one DHB will have flow on effects to others*
- *This is about strengthening services within the region*
- *Clinical viability has patient service and financial aspects. Both elements need to be looked at*
- *Accepting there is a duty of care to collaboratively engage and work on finding clinically and financially viable solutions*
- *Collectively being accountable and working regionally first before looking for out of region solutions*
- *There are a range of solutions for a vulnerable service. Some of these can be addressed at a district level while others will require a sub-regional, regional or national response*



The final step before sending out the survey to DHBs (late May) will be seeking feedback from COOs, GMs, CMAs, DoNs.

Communications to support the survey and provide clarity about purpose will be important, namely that the work builds on earlier work done as part of the RCSP and will be used as a basis for regional planning. A summary of the highest priority areas and mitigations will be provided to the MoH (as per their 26 February request to all CEOs).

## **RCSP clinical networks**

Responsibility for the oversight of the regional clinical networks (plastics, cardiology and renal) now rests with the RCSP steering group. Following on from the initial summary last month, 'Updates to CEOs and Boards' will continue to provide an outline of the work being completed.

### ***Cardiology***

Pre-hospital thrombolysis is being established in Hawke's Bay (pre-hospital thrombolysis can reduce mortality from heart attack and is particularly important the greater the distance from hospital). New software is being tested and the expected 'go live' date is mid June. MidCentral and Whanganui are also working towards establishing this service and St. John's are working with both DHB's to plan the logistics of implementation. Given the large border (and consequential overlap between MidCentral and Wanganui) it makes sense to move things forward in both DHB's at the same time.

A Central Region forum 'Cardiology 2012' is being held in June to identify the current and future requirements for cardiac services covering the continuum of care. The outcome of this forum will guide the work programme for the cardiac network for the next two years.

### ***Renal***

Along with the Integrated Care Strategy mentioned last month the Central Region Renal Network (CRRN) will be considering the following work at its May meeting.

- A requirements document for a regional renal IT system which will deliver benefits for patient management and business needs. The system will enable sharing of clinical information, better communication between providers and improve data for reporting and planning.
- Survey of renal units (includes international as well as New Zealand units) and geographical data of travel distances between dialysis centres and patient's homes within the Central Region. This is part of the Service Models and Workforce project which will identify potential gaps and inform the future service provision including where dialysis services are located and recommended models of care. Recommendations are expected from this work by August.

### ***Plastic Surgery***

Current initiatives include strengthening the Service Leadership Group through consumer representation, delayed-reconstructive breast surgery, reconstructive breast surgery information for patients and developing a regional service strategy. The latter two projects have a delivery date of July 2009.

## **Key Contacts**

Project Sponsor:	Murray Georgel, CEO, MidCentral DHB
Steering Group Chair:	Bridget Allan, GM Planning & Funding, Hutt Valley DHB
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More information on the RCSP can be found on the project website: [www.rcsp.org.nz](http://www.rcsp.org.nz)