



**CENTRAL REGION RENAL NETWORK
NEWSLETTER NO 1
APRIL 2009**

CCRN UPDATE – APRIL 2009

Dear Colleagues

Welcome to the first 2009 Central Region Renal Network Newsletter.

The Central Region Renal Network (CRRN) was established in May 2008, to progress the regional priorities and recommendations from the regional renal project. Out of a total of thirteen projects to be undertaken, five of these are currently underway; Information Technology, Integrated Care Strategy, Service Models & Workforce, Support for Patients and Families and Transplantation projects. Dr Grant Pidgeon, Clinical Leader of Capital and Coast DHB's Renal Department is chair of the CRRN.

Renal Project Updates

A brief introduction and updates from the different workgroups is outlined below:

Information Technology Project

This project is investigating, and will recommend, a renal information technology solution which will enhance communication and linkage of renal information within the secondary sector, with strong linkages to primary care and the patient, improve efficiency of patient management of chronic kidney disease, and capture meaningful data.

Currently the project team is collating information on the clinical and business requirements from key nursing, medical and administrative personnel from the four main service sites as well as discussions with Whanganui, Wairarapa and Hutt Valley DHBs. A draft requirements document will be tabled at the next CRRN meeting on 14 May 2009.

The Integrated Care Strategy Project's aim is to develop a plan to ensure renal services are closely linked with community health providers, can predict and work to prevent chronic kidney disease and ensure that primary care practitioners can confidently work with renal patients.

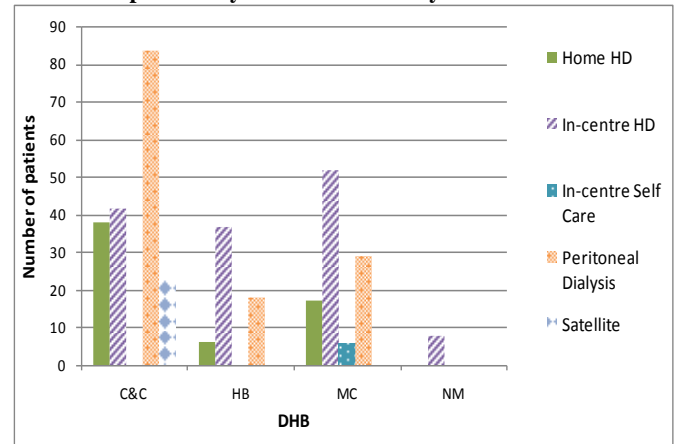
Warwick Davenport, Project Leader along with the project members has carried out a review of relevant literature and compiled a report which includes a number of recommendations and

clinical guidance. Riki Nia Nia along with other GMs Maori is reviewing the report prior to presentation at the CRRN meeting on 14 May 2009.

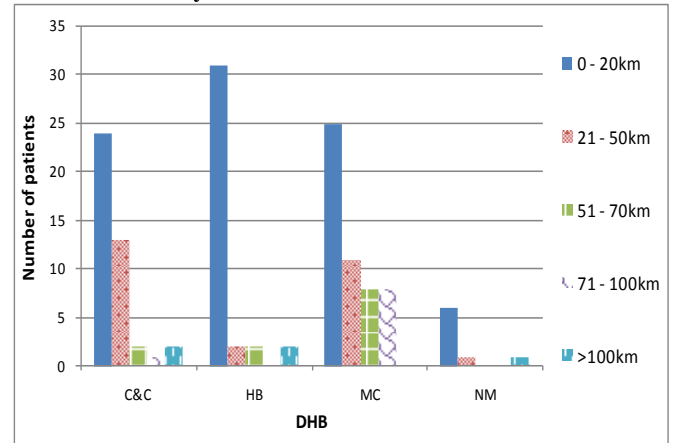
The Service Models & Workforce Project's objective is to improve service alignment with population health needs, reduce inequalities in accessing services, and guide DHB investment regarding facility options and workforce.

An analysis of geographical positioning of travel distances from dialysis centres to patient's homes has been carried out as well as a survey of renal dialysis models throughout NZ, Australia and other international dialysis centres. This information along with ethnicity data will form the basis of a report that will eventually inform the CRRN of service gaps and options to align CR services. An analysis of workforce issues has yet to commence. Some of this data is summarised below.

Number of patients by DHB and modality



Number of patients by travelling distance for In-centre Haemodialysis





The Support for Patient & Families Project aims to improve the patient's experience of renal services by identifying improvements in services or policies designed to provide support for patients and their families, thereby improving their ability to live as normal a life as possible.

A literature review of family needs has been completed which highlighted areas around communication, information on medications, transport barriers, psychological impacts and support for carers. Following on from this review, a stocktake of non-clinical support by each of the Central Region's DHBs was carried out which identified dominant gaps around transportation and information.

The Transplantation Project aims to improve access to renal transplantation by improving the number of live donor transplants per annum and streamlining the donor / recipient matching process.

The waiting times to access recipient and live donor investigations as part of the transplant workup process is being reviewed within each of the region's renal services.

Whilst all of the above projects interconnect with each other, the IT, Integrated Care Strategy, and Patient and Family Support projects have strong linkages, and will continue to do so during their implementation phases.

Regional News

MidCentral Region

Funding has been granted to support a new project within the Mid Central region, 'Enhanced Primary- Secondary Renal Care in the Horowhenua Region'. The aim of this project is to develop effective CKD management in the

Horowhenua region through a model of care in partnership with, General Practice teams, Iwi providers, patient representatives, secondary care physicians and nurses and other stakeholders. Key personnel from the MidCentral renal unit including Gillian Treloar (Nurse Manager) and Norman Panlilio (Renal Physician) will be involved in the planning and implementation stages.

Wellington Regional Hospital

The first renal transplant in the new Wellington Regional Hospital was carried out very recently. The recipient was then transferred and cared for in the new renal inpatient ward. We hope this will be the first of many more successful transplants in the new environment.

TAS Renal Website

The TAS website has been updated. As renal documents and reports are finalised along with related information, and of course CRRN newsletters, access to these and other clinical network information will be made available at www.centraltas.co.nz/ClinicalNetworks.

It would be helpful to gain your feedback and ideas as to how the CRRN and project teams can use this website as a resource for information and communication. Please let us know if you would like information placed on the website.

We look forward to working with you throughout 2009.

Best wishes

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