

Updates from LMC Covid Liaison & LMC Liaison 13/4/22

- **Covid Positive (C+) Hapu Māmā**

Just to be clear ALL C+ Hapu Māmā need to be referred to maternityclinic@cdhb.health.nz using the covid referral form in the form letters for EXPECT users or in the forms library for TIAKI users. To maintain a “list” of referrals for your client you can generate a referral using the Acute Respiratory code but don’t send it. If any LMC would like to see if a referral has been logged this can be accessed through HCS.

- **Flu Vaccines – please arrange to get your flu vaccines ASAP**

Refer to the daily Covid update for the vaccination clinic location and times. **No appointment is necessary.** If you do not get the daily updates, contact Charlotte.Evers@cdhb.health.nz to be added to the mail out list.

- ✓ Don’t miss the opportunity to protect yourself from influenza.
- ✓ There will be a flu season this year. Our borders are open, so influenza is probably already here.
- ✓ If someone is still going through the process of getting vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19, they *can* have their flu shot at the same time. No gap between necessary!
- ✓ If you have had COVID-19, you can get your flu shot as soon as you have recovered. No waiting necessary!
- ✓ If you’re still not 100% post COVID-19 / exhibiting symptoms, check with your GP before getting your flu vaccine.

- **CWH staffing levels critical**

A number of midwives have retired/resigned etc quite recently. We know that Covid will have a long tail with around 500 cases a day, opening the borders will mean that infections and not only Covid will increase. We are expecting Flu to peak around July and RSV in June.

LMC’s have been approached by CDHB to see if they have any capacity to work in CDHB. Any number of hours would be appreciated. If you would like to have access to the Google Docs roster, please email Charlotte.Evers@cdhb.health.nz You will then be able to self-roster where there are gaps. Set shifts could also be an option, contact Katherine.Gee@cdhb.health.nz

If you have any capacity/availability at short notice, then please contact ACMM. If an LMC was doing a CDHB shift and one of her women needed a review this could possibly be facilitated through MAU. A funding package has been put together based on the highest rate (Step 7) of casual pay including GST, annual leave, ACC, to be paid through your usual funding stream.

Email Charlotte.Evers@cdhb.health.nz for the form to complete to be sent digitally to MMPO who will send it on to your usual provider.



A BIG THANKYOU!! to LMC’s who have been coming in to do shifts, it is most appreciated.

- **Oromairaki Health Hub opening 31 May**

Oromairaki means “resonating sounds of the heavens” Details of the opening of this exciting new facility to follow.

- **Elective non acute work will be triaged**

Medical staff trying to do work as planned but sometimes this must be deferred due to staffing levels. The aim is not to delay cares but sometimes this is unavoidable.

- **RAT's for Rural localities**
These links provide information about how to access RAT's including for rural and hard to access locations.
<https://covid19.govt.nz/testing-and-tracing/covid-19-testing/how-to-get-a-covid-19-test/>
<https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/covid-19/?covidTesting=rats>
- **VTE & Omicron**
The medical team at CDHB are reviewing the need for thromboprophylaxis in light of emerging evidence around Omicron.
- **RANZCOG - Supporting Māori wahine and whānau during Covid-19**
RANZCOG have resources you may find useful [here](https://ranzcof.au/news/supporting-maori-wahine-and-whanau-during-covid-19)
<https://ranzcof.au/news/supporting-maori-wahine-and-whanau-during-covid-19>
- **RANZCOG - Covid-19 vaccination in Pregnant and breastfeeding Women and those planning Pregnancy**
Some more RANZCOG resources:
<https://ranzcof.au/statements-guidelines/covid-19-statement/covid-19-vaccination-information>
<https://ranzcof.au/statements-guidelines/covid-19-statement>
- **Covid-19 Information in 27 Languages**
Access information here: <https://covid19.govt.nz/languages-and-resources/translations/>
- **86% of Cnty Schools have Covid**
With the school holidays approaching and children visiting older relatives the risk for Covid transmission increases. Exercise caution especially around vulnerable older people and those with comorbidities.
- **Mask wearing likely to continue throughout the winter**
Mask wearing is a simple yet effective intervention to reduce transmission. There is plenty of funded PPE available through your usual outlets.
- **Virtual consults in primary units to reduce the need for women to present at CWH.**
The medical team are reviewing the possibility of employing virtual consultations in some situations such as long latent phase of labour and reduced fetal movements. This has the potential to reduce the need for women and their LMC's to present to CWH. More details to follow.
- **FETAL Surveillance**
Continue with your vigilance around fetal well-being assessments especially from 28 weeks. Weekly SFH measurements from 36/40 are recommended for hapu māmā who have had Covid at any gestation. You will be advised by the obstetric team about the need for scans. Please note also that the CDHB funding for co-payment of community-based scans requested by CDHB obstetrician will cease on 24 April 2022.
- **C+ LMC's**
The rate of Covid infection amongst LMC's has remained steady with around 10 LMC's isolating in any week. Again, thank you all for being so organised with covering your caseloads for periods of sickness.
- **Covid Positive Parents of NICU Babies**
 - Babies admitted to NICU who have a Covid +ve māmā and who have had skin to skin >15 minutes will be treated as Covid +ve until testing proves otherwise. They will be cared for in Room 2 which is a dedicated isolation room.
 - Covid +ve parents are not permitted to visit their babies until they have completed their 7 days isolation, after this time they can visit with an N95 mask.
 - Vertical transmission of Covid-19 to babies is uncommon.
 - Recent studies of Covid-19 vaccination in pregnancy suggest the possibility of transplacental transfer of SARS CoV-2 specific antibodies that might provide protection to infants. It is also suggested that this is protective for reducing Covid-19 hospitalisation in infants < 6 months of age.

Ngā mihi nui

Catherine Rietveld / Sonya Gray

Covid Liaison Midwife / LMC Liaison