



Caring for Our People

Manaakitia ā tātou tāngata

March 2021

As-salāmu ‘alaykum. Peace be with you

Life-saving actions

This last month has been a time, hasn't it!

Two changes to Alert Level 3 for Auckland within two weeks! And let's add a tsunami warning and evacuation to the plan just to keep us on our toes!

Unfortunately, Auckland is always going to bear the brunt of COVID-19 on behalf of the rest of New Zealand because Auckland has the infrastructure to cope with the Managed Isolation and Quarantine facilities that the rest of New Zealand doesn't. There isn't much we can do about that.

What we can do now is look to the staged vaccination programme that is rolling out starting at our border and MIQ workers, and working outwards into our communities from there. See where you sit in the plan:

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-getting-vaccine/covid-19-our-vaccine-rollout-plan>



The Ministry of Health is looking for additional vaccinators to support the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. If you're a retired health professional or not currently working in the health workforce and want to volunteer, you can register your interest.

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccine-strategy-and-planning>

Vaccinations will be key for future overseas travel plans, for protecting vulnerable people in our families and communities and in protecting those people unable to have vaccinations. You may need a copy of your vaccination certificate for 'travel passports' which I expect will be similar to needing certain vaccinations prior to travelling to some parts of the world except almost everywhere will be expecting a COVID-19 vaccination.

You may also have to prove you have been vaccinated if you apply for certain jobs that have a risk of COVID-19 exposure. Therefore the Ministry of Health is creating a National Immunisation Register that individuals will be able to access for their own immunisation history.

There is a lot of thought going into this vaccination programme. It is not mandatory, it is free, and it is strongly recommended that everyone participate if they are able to.

I encourage everyone to learn more about the vaccine and the processes that surround it because as well as ongoing Contact Tracing, hand washing and being kind, the vaccine will be the next big thing.

<https://covid19.govt.nz/updates-and-resources/covid-19-vaccine-resources-info-sheets/>

Ehara tāku toa i te toa takitahi engari he toa takitini

Mine is not the accomplishments of one, but the accomplishments of many

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