

Kia ora koutou

Please see this week's Primary Care Clinical Digest for the week ending April 6 2023.

Hope everyone has a good Easter break!

PRIMARY CARE CLINICAL DIGEST APRIL 6 2023	
What is in this Issue?	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Imms Taskforce Report: Initial Priorities for the National Immunisation Programme in Aotearoa2. Pertussis Clinical Update3. Funded Casual Consultations for Displaced People – Ending Midnight April 104. Temporary Supply Issue of Rifinah 100.150 mg tablets5. COVID-19 Antivirals: The Role of Molnupiravir in New Zealand's Funded Treatments Portfolio6. Update for Pharmacists in General Practice week ending March 31 20237. Top Weekend Viewing
Imms Taskforce Report: Initial Priorities for the National Immunisation Programme in Aotearoa	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Please see here to access this important document.2. Other documents relative to imms can be found: Dropbox - National Immunisation Programme – Vaccine resources - Simplify your life
Pertussis Clinical Update See attached document	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. A third pertussis death – national response focuses on vaccination and early diagnosis2. In the past week public health services have been notified of another tragic death of an infant with confirmed pertussis infection. In response to the recent deaths a national pertussis task force has been established.3. Please see attached document being provided to clinicians.4. A media release is available to view at: News and updates – Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand
Funded Casual Consultations for Displaced People – Ending Midnight April 10 See attached letter	<ol style="list-style-type: none">5. On March 16 Te Whatu Ora advised of the continuation to fund the cost of casual consultations for people who are displaced within and from Northland, Hawkes Bay, Tairāwhiti, as well as Tararua and Coromandel until midnight April 10 2023. People in small communities who are cut off or isolated in Hawkes Bay were also covered. This included funding for consults in general practice, accident and medical, after hours and urgent care, so they can be waived for those displaced. A copy of the letter is attached.6. To date, there has been low uptake of this initiative, although there is an awareness that the invoices from general practices and PHOs will continue to trickle through over the coming months.7. Te Whatu Ora have connected with local teams and reviewed the need for ongoing funding. The funded casual consultations and prescription co-payment waiver for displaced people will end at

	<p>midnight April 10. This means that primary care co-payments and charges will return to 'BAU' from April 11.</p> <p>8. It is understood that there will continue to be people displaced for some time who may require assistance. MSD and MBIE have separate funding streams to support these groups.</p>
Temporary Supply Issue of Rifinah 100.150 mg tablets	<p>9. The supplier of Rifinah 100/150 mg tablets (isoniazid 100 mg with rifampicin 150 mg) has advised that due to manufacturing plant delays, these tablets will be temporarily out of stock from the beginning of April until the beginning of May 2023.</p> <p>10. For further information see Medicine notices - Pharmac website</p> <p>11. Any questions about this supply issue, please email enquiry@pharmac.govt.nz</p>
COVID-19 Antivirals: The Role of Molnupiravir in New Zealand's Funded Treatments Portfolio	<p>1. Please follow this link to the Pharmac consultation regarding options to clarify the role of molnupiravir in New Zealand's portfolio of funded COVID-19 treatments.</p>
Update for Pharmacists in General Practice week ending March 31 2023 <i>See full notice attached for wider information</i>	<p>2. Cyclone Gabrielle: Please see important updates for those affected by Cyclone Gabrielle.</p> <p>3. See here for information on Te Whatu Ora funding primary healthcare delivery in affected regions.</p> <p>4. Safe access to Opioids consultation underway – Ministry of Health</p> <p>1. Manatū Hauora, the Ministry of Health, is consulting on ways to manage the risk of opioid misuse while ensuring appropriate patient access to these medicines. This is following the changes to the Misuse of Drugs Regulation last year. Submissions about this consultation were able to be made to the Ministry of Health here (closed 31 March 2023).</p> <p>2. The Schedule Rules on prescribing and dispensing of Class B controlled drugs have not changed, and only a quantity sufficient to provide treatment for a period of up to 1 month in total will be subsidised.</p> <p>3. For more information, see the Pharmac website</p> <p>5. Supply Issue:</p> <p>1. Nutricia foods products Pharmac website</p> <p>2. Pregabalin 300 mg capsules Pharmac website</p> <p>3. Octreotide 100 mcg per ml ampoules Pharmac website</p> <p>4. Fentanyl patches (12.5 mg and 25 mcg) Pharmac website</p> <p>5. Fluoxetine 20 mg caps Pharmac website</p> <p>1. Reminder:</p> <p>1. Hydrocortisone cream 1% pack size change</p> <p>1. COVID-19 Information for Prescribers:</p> <p>1. Pharmac website – COVID-19 oral antivirals: Access Criteria</p> <p>2. Aotearoa's COVID-19 treatment portfolio</p> <p>3. Access Criteria Assessment Tool</p> <p>1. More information on Covid-19 here</p>
Top Weekend Viewing	<p>6. With a long weekend and a mixed bag weather-wise, it might be time to settle down to binge watch a couple of series:</p> <p>1. Rabbit Hole (TVNZ+) – the tables are turned when a mysterious, world-controlling power starts calling the shots,</p>

and our protagonist discovers that everything he's fighting for is built upon a web of lies.

2. Succession (Neon) – everyone's favourite drama series about a family fighting for control of their ruthless father's media empire when he steps down. Now into season six.
3. Lewis Capaldi: How I'm Feeling Right Now (Netflix) – this amazing Scottish singer has found fame despite having Tourette Syndrome. Reviews have said this is a worthwhile watch for the vulnerability, the openness and the kind of vocabulary that would have had us all grounded as kids.

Ngā mihi
Janice