

Information update for all *General Practice, Urgent Care & Community Pharmacy teams*

- Please share this with everyone in your team -

Welcome to this first update of 2021. We trust you have managed to have a break of some sorts but also acknowledge team members who worked through the break - thank you.

Red Stream Webinar

If you missed the Red Streaming webinar that CPRG ran in December here are HealthPathways links you may find useful.

Recording of the event - <https://canterbury.communityhealthpathways.org/300183.htm> (click on '2015 to present')

[PowerPoint Slides](#)

[Q & A Summary](#)

PPE Supply

A reminder that from next week CPRG will no longer be in a position to support the routine supply of COVID related PPE for general practice and community pharmacy.

To access PPE to support your Covid related activity it is necessary to register and establish an account with HCL (<https://www.hcl.co.nz/contact-us/>) and PPE will be distributed in line with the MoH [principles of supply](#).

CPRG will continue to advocate on your behalf and will be monitoring ongoing supply and response under the new centralised scheme to ensure that surge capacity is in the system.

COVID Vaccine

Planning for the roll out of the vaccine is still underway with significant detail still to be confirmed. Information on progress to date is available here - <https://www.immune.org.nz/covid-19-vaccines>. This sort of information could be shared with patients if you are being questioned.

Please continue testing

As you are all aware, we have come into 2021 with surging cases of COVID-19 around the globe and highly infectious new strains. We are seeing the effects of this in NZ with increased positive cases being detected in managed isolation.

Steps are being taken in these settings to ensure the highest level of prevention and protection are in place. However, it is a timely reminder that none of us can let our guard down.

Testing numbers have decreased over the holiday period, as expected. Canterbury has actually done a good job of keeping swabbing going, but it would be great to see this return to baseline and we ask that you continue to encourage swabbing of all people presenting with symptoms.

Keep yourself, your staff and patients safe by following the guidance we went over at the end of last year around triage, streaming and appropriate levels of PPE and IP&C processes (see links above).

Kind regards,

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