

Primary Health Care Report Executive Summary 2015-6:

Pacific Peoples

Talofa lava, Kia orana, Malo e lelei, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Bula vinaka, Namaste, Malo ni, Halo ola keta, Mauri, Fakatalofa atu, Kia ora and Greeting Friends and Colleagues.

Canterbury has been home to Pacific peoples for many decades and Pacific communities in Canterbury are recognised for their positive academic, economic, sporting and cultural contributions. Pacific peoples in Canterbury are a young and diverse group with many members identifying with multiple Pacific and other ethnicities. Pacific peoples in Canterbury are strong collaborators and there is much goodwill and support shared across communities in order to find solutions for local problems. The Canterbury rebuild, alongside academic and employment opportunities make Canterbury a region of choice for many Pacific families.

This is the sixth year the Pacific Primary Health Care Report for the three Canterbury Primary Health Organisations (Christchurch PHO, Rural Canterbury PHO and Pegasus Health) has been produced. This summary should be read alongside the full report “*Paul Bridgford, Lynley Cook, Ramai Lord, Maria Pasene. Primary Health Care Report 2015-2016. Christchurch: Combined Canterbury PHOs. January 2016.*” This report can also be found on the [Canterbury Clinical Network](#) website.

The broad question being asked in this report is how accessible are primary health care services and how well are they addressing and improving health outcomes for Pacific peoples? This report provides information aimed at informing the future development of primary health care services across the three Canterbury PHOs. It offers a view of key health services that play a central role in improving the health for Pacific peoples in Canterbury.

In terms of health, Pacific peoples across the health system have significant inequalities in a number of health areas and have lower overall health status than other population groups in Canterbury.

Key findings from the 2015/16 report show that while there have been some encouraging trends there are still many areas of concern for the Pacific population.

- Pacific enrolments in Canterbury have risen and are now at 13,539 in July 2016 up from 12,707 as at 1 July 2015.
- Pacific babies are more likely than other groups to be breastfed (74% at lead maternity carer discharge)
- Pacific children have comparatively low enrolment in DHB funded oral health services at 54.3% of preschoolers.
- Pacific children continue to have the highest level of coverage for childhood immunisations at 8 months (97%) and 24 months (96%).
- Pacific children’s B4 School Checks’ coverage has increased to almost 100%, going from 78.9% in 2013/14 to 99.3 % in 2015/16.
- HPV coverage remains low for Pacific young women at 35% for completion of the 3-dose programme.

- Rates of referral for Pacific people to primary mental health services remain at a lower level than expected at 0.9% for adults and 1.5% for youth.
- Pacifica women have had relatively steady breast screening rates at 62.8% in 2015-6. This is below the target of 70%.
- Unfortunately cervical screening coverage for Pacifica women has not been reported by the national cervical screening programme this year.
- Pacifica smokers having been offered brief advice and support to quit dropped to 79.6% in 2015-6 from 84.8% in 2014-5. This drop has been experienced by all groups
- Cardiovascular disease risk assessments are now at 78.1% in 2015-6 up from 66.3% in 2014-5. This falls well below the 90% target.

Primary health care has a unique position and opportunity to identify solutions and strategies to improve health outcomes for Pacific peoples across the health system. Developing a responsive primary health care system that actively works towards reducing health inequalities is central to improving the health of Pacific peoples.

Going forward, Pacific peoples have a genuine desire to be part of local primary health care solutions that improve their health, keep them well, are easy to get to and co-ordinate their ongoing care. In order to achieve this, new approaches are required for primary health care with a greater emphasis on population health, the role of the community, creating opportunities for Pacific leadership, health promotion and preventive care.

This is the final report in this format. Future reporting for the Pacific population will be reported in a more comprehensive Canterbury-wide dashboard in collaboration with the Canterbury District Health Board.