



Doctors: Neil Poskitt, Sally Hoskins, Andrew McMenamin, Robyn Parker, Ron Vail, Sarah Dalziel

## April Newsletter

### Staff News

We are unfortunately saying goodbye to Renate this month, one of our administration team members. She has been with us for the past 10 years, but we do wish her well for the future. We are delighted to welcome Dannielle to the team next month as her replacement and she is looking forward to meeting all our patients shortly. We are also welcoming Tuara to our team in early May as our new Health Care Assistant. We have had this position unfilled for a few months so we are delighted to welcome Tuara.

### Influenza Vaccines

We have staff available to offer influenza vaccinations from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022. If you would like to book in for this, please contact admin on 07 345 6627 or email [tengaeadmin@raphs.org.nz](mailto:tengaeadmin@raphs.org.nz) for an appointment.

#### Eligibility criteria for FREE seasonal influenza vaccination for 2022:

- pregnant people
- people aged 65 years and older
- Māori and Pacific peoples aged 55 to 64 years
- people aged 6 months to under 65 years with eligible conditions
- tamariki aged 4 years or under who have been hospitalised for respiratory illness (including measles) or have a history of significant respiratory illness.

If you are unsure if you qualify, please give us a call to discuss.

### Public Holidays

We are closed on the following dates:

Good Friday: 15<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
Easter Monday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
ANZAC Day: 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Parliament recently passed a law allowing Matariki, the Maori New Year to become a public holiday. This date will be 24<sup>th</sup> June this year, and we will be closed on this date.

## **RAT Testing**

Rapid antigen tests (RATs) are New Zealand's primary testing tool for people with COVID-19 symptoms or household contacts. You should report the results of your rapid antigen test (RAT) whether you test positive or negative. You can do this online through My COVID Record.

- Login to My COVID Record.
- Click 'Report a test result'
- Follow the steps.

If you are having trouble using My COVID Record, you can report the results of your RAT over the phone by calling 0800 222 478 and choose option 3.

## **Appointment Availability**

This section is a repeat of last month's newsletter, however it is important to continue keeping our patients informed of this:

Due to the continued staff challenges and managing increased spread of positive COVID cases in the local community there may be a time when the doctor you are enrolled with is unavailable. This may happen in advance, or on the day. In this case, we will contact you as soon as we know and work out a plan with you. If we have another doctor available we will change your appointment time, or alternatively we will discuss other options with you. We do ask for your understanding and flexibility if this happens, as our resources may be a little less than usual and we may need to prioritise appointments. Please be assured though, we will always be able to offer care and support to our patients and this is our top priority. Please consider if virtual consults will work for you and phone as usual to book this. If you have questions about COVID we have a dedicated nurse you can speak to. Please ask administration to put you through if you would like to chat. After hours, Health Line is the number to phone: 0800 611 116.