

**NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND DISABILITY
(NATIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE)**

**Minutes of the 158th meeting
held on Monday, 16 May 2005
at Tairāwhiti District Health Board, Gisborne**

Present: Geoff Fougere
Sara Georgeson
Kevin Hague
Riripeti Haretuku
Linda Holloway
Robert Logan (Chair)
Andrew Moore
Phil Shoemack
Lynette Stewart
Api Talemaitoga
Gwen Tepania-Palmer

In Attendance: Diana Cookson, Analyst
Margaret Earle, Manager
Angela Faherty, Executive Assistant
Barbara Langford, Senior Advisor (Public Health)
Charmaine Ross, Senior Analyst (Māori Health)
Denis Simpson, Kaumatua
Louise Thornley, Senior Analyst

Agenda Item 1: Apologies

Apologies received from Neil Pearce.

Agenda Item 2: Table all papers

Financial Summary - see agenda item 3

Correspondence - see agenda item 6

Memo on small DHBs - see agenda item 10.1.

Agenda Item 3: Financial update

The financial summary was tabled and discussed. It was agreed that in the future to enable committee members sufficient time to consider the information in the financial summary, it would be circulated at the beginning of the meeting and discussed at some point later in the meeting.

Agenda Item 4: Minutes of the April 2005 meeting

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

Agenda Item 5: Matters arising

None

Agenda Item 6: Correspondence

Outwards

Copies of the following outwards correspondence were tabled and noted by the committee:

- Letter to Minister of Health regarding NHC's past and proposed further work on Caring for the Carers
- Reply to Newborn Metabolic Screening Advisory Boards regarding recommendation on the NHC's advice on HIV antenatal screening regarding a national prevalence study.

Inwards

None

Agenda Item 7: Conferences

- *Living Well conference (Auckland)* – Louise Thornley and Gwen Tepania-Palmer reported on the conference presentations and their relevance to the NHC's chronic conditions project.

The *Living Well National Summit* on 12 August was discussed. Api Talemaitoga offered to present the themes from submissions received on the NHC's discussion document on chronic conditions.

- *NZ Association of Impact Assessment Conference* – Barbara Langford and Geoff Fougere reported on the profile given to health impact assessment at this conference. The Health Impact Assessment training prior to the conference was well attended and received lots of positive feedback.
- *Request to sponsor NZ Guidelines Group consumer summit* – The Manager and Chair reported back on discussion with the NZGG and advised that the NZGG is holding a hui with Maori stakeholders in June, prior to the consumer summit. The NHC has been invited to send a representative. Maori members on the committee to advise on their availability. Request for sponsorship to be considered at the June NHC meeting, following the hui.
- *Health Services and Policy Research Conference* in Canberra – It was proposed that the NHC submit two abstracts based on the new health interventions work. The suggestion was also made that another abstract be submitted focusing on health disparities and indigenous perspectives on health. Draft abstracts to be discussed at the June NHC meeting.
- *Other forthcoming conferences* - It was agreed that the NHC should have a presence at the *Many Faces of Abuse* conference being held in August by Standards Plus and the New Zealand Home Health Association conference in September (which was looking for sponsorship). Linda Holloway offered to attend part of the *Child and Family Policy* conference (in Dunedin) that is being held at the same time as the Public Health Association of NZ conference.

Agenda Item 8: PHAC report back

The PHAC meeting was to be held the following day, so no report back was provided.

Agenda Item 9: Final details for meetings at Tairāwhiti DHB

It was agreed that the PHAC meeting would begin at 8.45pm the following morning to allow more time for the poroporoake. The remainder of the PHAC meeting would be held after the poroporoake.

Agenda Item 10: Brief updates

Agenda Item 10.1 Work programme

The committee noted the table prepared by the secretariat, which detailed what actions taken to implement recommendations made by the NHC from 2000 to 2004. The Chair commented that the Ministry of Health and other agencies had responded to most of the committee's recommendations. The notable exception was the recommendations in the committee's report on *Molecular Genetic Testing in New Zealand*. This was a critical issue, particularly the recommendations relating to the genetic testing workforce. It was agreed to raise the committee's concerns about lack of action with the Minister of Health.

The Manager spoke to the memo on scoping a project about small DHBs and hospitals. Gwen Tepania-Palmer, Phil Shoemack, Linda Holloway and Geoff Fougere agreed to work with the secretariat on the proposal to commission some think pieces. It was suggested that former committee member, Althea Carruth-Page may be interested in commenting on the scope of the work.

Agenda Item 10.2 People with Chronic Conditions

The secretariat advised that requests for proposals for the case studies had been sent out widely. Also, there had been strong interest in the discussion paper and some submissions had already been received.

The interface between the NHC's work on chronic conditions and the Ministry of Health's Leading for Outcomes work was mentioned and it was agreed that sponsors should discuss this further.

Agenda Item 10.3 Decision-making about New Health Interventions

The Manager reported that arrangements were well underway for the launch of the report on decision-making about new health interventions 30 May, and a meeting with key DHB decision-makers during the week prior to the launch.

Agenda Item 10.4 Māori Health

The memo on previous NHC work relating to Māori carers was noted. It was agreed that looking again at issues around caring for carers was a priority for the NHC and that particular emphasis should be given to the needs of Māori carers. The forum on Caring for the Carers at Tairāwhiti the following day was seen as an opportunity to get further input. Lynette Stewart and Api Talemaitoga agreed to work with the secretariat to further scope the work and consider contracting for opinion pieces.

Agenda Item 10.5 Antenatal HIV Screening

The Ministry of Health’s advice on antenatal HIV screening has yet to be sent to the Minister.

Next meeting

The next NHC meeting will be held on Tuesday 21 June in Wellington – venue to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 2pm.

Confirmed as a true and accurate record

.....Chair

.....Date