

Well communities



PN Hospital Navigation App

Did you know there is an app to help you find your way around Palmerston North Hospital?

The PN Hospital Navigation App allows patients and visitors to find their way around the hospital quickly and easily using a smartphone. The app provides a visual map and text directions to follow, as well as somewhere to store all of your upcoming hospital appointments. The app will remind you before your appointment and help you plan your travel to the hospital, including which gate to enter, where to park and where to go for the appointment. The app is free to download from the Apple App Store and Google Play.

National Travel Assistance Scheme

If you, or a family member, need to travel long distances – or frequently – to see a specialist (and you have been referred by another specialist), then you may be eligible for help with expenses under the National Travel Assistance Scheme. These expenses may include travel, accommodation and support person costs.

More information and the eligibility criteria can be found on the Ministry of Health website Travel Assistance page.

New initiative enables quicker access to life saving treatment

A new treatment pathway, which is a collaboration between St John, the Central Cardiac Network and the District Health Boards in the lower North Island, plans to increase the chance of survival for patients with the most life threatening form of heart attack (myocardial infarction).

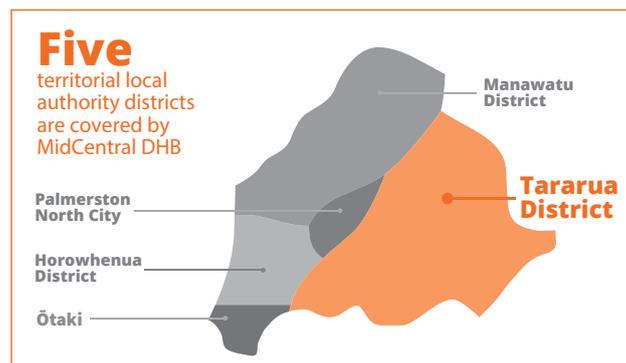
A STEMI (ST elevation myocardial infarction) occurs when there is a complete blockage of one of the heart's major arteries.

This new pathway enables paramedics to give a clot-busting drug to patients in the community and then transport those patients directly to the most appropriate hospital, reducing the time it takes to receive lifesaving treatment.

MidCentral DHB General Manager, Strategy, Planning and Performance, Craig Johnston said the rollout of the STEMI pathway was a positive result for patients.

"The ability to have STEMI patients assessed in the community by St John paramedics will decrease transfer waiting times to Wellington Hospital, preserve cardiac function and improve outcomes for patients across the region."

This pathway is an example of health services standing shoulder to shoulder to improve access to emergency healthcare for those with the greatest need, particularly those living in rural and remote areas.



Access to chemotherapy in Masterton

MidCentral DHB's regional Cancer Screening, Treatment and Support cluster has recently begun delivering chemotherapy from Wairarapa Hospital.

Plans are underway for Tararua residents living close to the Wairarapa DHB boundary to have the opportunity to choose between treatment in Masterton or Palmerston North (if their specific chemotherapy treatment is available in Masterton).

The details for accessing treatment at either site will be discussed with patients on a case by case basis.

New fees for U14 and Community Service Card holders

Did you know that since 1 December 2018, GP fees at Barraud Street Health Centre and Pahiatua Medial Services have been reduced for people with Community Service Cards?

Tararua Health Group has chosen to adopt a low fee scheme, so people with a Community Service Card pay the fees listed below, for standard consultations:

Adults 18 years+ \$18.50

Young people 14 -17 years \$12.50

All children under 14 years can also access GP services for no charge (this has increased from under 13).

It is hoped these fee changes will reduce finance as a barrier for accessing health care.

Any questions please contact:

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