



Research Theme **DHB Research Profiles**

In this issue

1. DHBeing Part of the Big Picture
2. Introduction to June eNews Contributors
3. Research at Auckland DHB: Going from Strength to Strength
4. Hutt Valley DHB: Workforce and Effective Practice
5. Focus on Health - A New Zealand Innovation Challenge
6. Next DHBRF e-newsletter
7. About DHBRF e-newsletter
8. Subscribe/unsubscribe
9. Contact us

1. DHBeing Part of the Big Picture

This is the second installment of an exciting series of profiles of DHB research initiatives being undertaken by DHBs, including research initiated in-house for DHBs to address their own research needs, often by innovative processes involving diverse collaborations.

To recap from last issue: Research managers were invited to share examples of key projects being carried out at their DHB, perhaps highlighting their unique focus areas or themes in which they have expertise. These may be projects that have recently been funded, are nearing completion, require participant recruitment, are planned but need other partnering DHBs, promotion of soon to be released RFPs, highlighting of a DHBs specific attributes for research facilitation e.g. rural, priority population, specialist areas etc.... **The brief was broad – as is the New Zealand health sector and expertise within it. Can we aid cross-sectoral collaboration and communication?**

If possible, DHBs were encouraged to highlight not just what they have been doing in the way of research, but also what they've achieved, or learnt from it, if they can share transferable advice/learnings regarding processes, methods of engagement, issues in the sector that need to be addressed in undertaking research... **Can we improve our efficiency and outcomes by sharing knowledge?**



DHBs were further invited to demonstrate how they may have addressed the DHBRF

translational research principles and research priorities (profiled in [April 2009 DHBRE eNews](#)).

Please keep in mind – we are always happy to consider contributions for the enews. If you are aware of DHB-related research that may be of interest to our readers please contact the relevant DHB research manager or let us know by emailing [Sharon McCook](#).

2. Introduction to June eNews Contributors

In this issue, a profile of Auckland DHB is included, the home of the largest clinical research facility in New Zealand. Keen to establish a strong evidence base for their clinical work ADHB aim to improve all aspects of healthcare delivery, including understanding how to prevent and treat illness, improving how care and services are delivered and to promote wellbeing.

A contribution is also included from Hutt Valley DHB. A 2009 publication produced by the DHB highlights some of the past year's research and original work across a broad array of areas. In this enews a profile introduces their focus of workforce and effective practice.

Finally, there is a reminder about the Focus on Health New Zealand Innovation Challenge, including a link to a recent presentation given at Launch Workshops around the country by Jay Srin, the Chief Innovation Officer at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and one of the expert international judges.

3. Research at Auckland DHB: Going from Strength to Strength

The Auckland District Health Board comprises the largest clinical research facility in New Zealand, with research activity continuing to go from strength to strength.



With over 900 research projects currently registered as being either active or pending approval, research at ADHB is hugely diverse, with research activity occurring in almost all the services within the ADHB environment and across staff (including medical, allied health and nursing clinicians, joint academic staff, management, and clinical trainees and students).

The type of research being undertaken and the involvement of ADHB research staff varies. Some ADHB researchers develop and lead their own projects while others participate in large international multi-centre clinical trials or research collaborations. Other researchers provide either mentoring support for trainees or an ADHB contact for research being undertaken at ADHB by external institutions or organisations. In addition, other staff, disciplines and specialties provide input into research projects but who are not listed as investigators, including LabPlus, Pharmacy and Radiology.

In addition to supporting the governance of research at ADHB, the role of the Research Office is considerably broader than this and includes providing advice on a range of research related issues (ethical issues, good clinical practice, financial and legal issues), identifying and applying for research funding, and facilitating research collaborations across departments and institutions.

To find out more about research at ADHB download [the full article here](#).

For more information contact the Research Manager, [Dr Samantha Jones](#) or go to the [ADHB Research Office website](#).

4. Hutt Valley DHB: Workforce and Effective Practice

This year has seen the first publication of a review of research and original work at Hutt Valley DHB, with already a sense of anticipation for future editions. The publication specifically profiles work accepted for publication and papers



presented at meetings, and represents only part of the original work produced over the past 12 months. The foreword of the publication, by Tony Dal Din (Director of Nursing) and Robert Logan (Chief Medical Advisor) highlights that original work, including research, is critical for the vitality and development of an organisation. The breadth and quality of initiatives being undertaken within Hutt Valley DHB is impressive and growing. "The success of our DHB will depend on the ability of our staff to respond to the demands of the community within the limitations of available resources. Original thinking and the challenging of old ideas, which are the basis for research, will be needed".

Among a broad array of research areas, this is demonstrated in an article on Workforce and Effective Practice: basics of patient care. Dr Iwona Stolarek is junior doctor supervisor at Hutt Hospital and is looking at ways to improve the quality of training and education that Hutt Valley DHB can offer. Alongside this is an evaluation of the systems and processes to ensure quality and safety to patients and ensure that the right person is seeing them at the right time. The time and motion study on medical house surgeons was presented at the Association for Medical Education in Europe (AMEE) and the same study is currently underway in the UK to compare the two training systems.

Dr Stolarek continues to take an interest in the development of nurse led initiatives. Among other initiatives she is involved in, Dr Stolarek has presented the first year's audit of the Nurse led Atrial Fibrillation (AF) clinics looking at both clinical and quality outcomes and how NZ Guidelines on AF can be implemented using this approach, and has also presented this work internationally.

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the "A Year's Research and Original Work" 2009 profile from Hutt Valley DHB or for more information on Hutt Valley DHB research visit the [Hutt Valley DHB website](#).

5. Focus on Health - A New Zealand Innovation Challenge

New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE) has launched a commercialisation and business development initiative that aims to help the New Zealand health sector maximise opportunities in the growing United States health market.



Taking Great Kiwi Health Ideas to the World

The 31 August deadline for entry submissions is now only eight weeks away. NZTE have just completed the Launch Workshops for the Challenge and were delighted to have Jay Srin, one of the expert international judges, present at the workshops in Auckland, Dunedin, Christchurch and Wellington. Jay, who is the Chief Innovation Officer at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, provided real insight into the opportunities that the United States market presents to New Zealand companies.

To view a video of Jay's interview or her presentation, and for more information about the Innovation Challenge visit the [Focus on Health website](#).

6 . Next DHB e-newsletter:

We are always happy to receive contributions of relevance to our readership. If you have a proposed newsletter item please email [Sharon McCook](#).

7 . About the purpose of the DHBRF e-newsletter:

- Provide DHBs with information relevant to DHB core business i.e. funding and planning activities
- Identify research that could inform planning for public health services
- Identify less relevant research which may have more of a biomedical focus
- Monthly communications are themed, focusing on priority health areas

Information included represents highlights of findings of high-quality research, readily available at the time of writing

8 . Unsubscribe

To unsubscribe, send an e-mail containing your title, name, job title, organisation, mailing address, phone and fax number, with the subject line "Unsubscribe DHB eNewsletter" to gmoore@hrc.govt.nz.

9 . Contact Us:

To contact us telephone Sharon McCook at the HRC on (09) 303 5224 or email: smccook@hrc.govt.nz



Check out the HRC's website on www.hrc.govt.nz