



General Practice Owners Association  
of Aotearoa New Zealand

The mandated voice of general practice and urgent care providers.  
By general practice, for general practice.

GenPro For You  
May 2024 Update



Working unashamedly to support sustainability and viability on behalf of general practice and urgent care  
business owners - and ultimately the New Zealand population they serve.

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## Message from the Chief Executive

Kia ora koutou,

I am writing this on the eve of the coalition governments budget announcement. While I am naturally interested to see what the government has in store for all New Zealanders, I am more interested in the Health Budget and implications for general practice.

Once Te Whatu Ora/Health New Zealand has its budget confirmed this will have the direct flow on effect to the proposed uplift to capitation.

Like many of you, GenPro is hearing whispers of a disappointingly low uplift for the year ahead, with promises of more money in the following budget in 2025.

GenPro has been clear with the Minister of Health and all the officials that we have engaged with that general practice needs significant investment now.

We have been clear that communities will lose access to medical, injury and mental health care services if the underfunding of general practice is not addressed.

It seems the whispers and rumours are there to temper our expectations, which is most frustrating as it assumes that general practice can choose to carry on, underfunded and undervalued until the next budget.

Unless the uplift exceeds the increased costs that you are all facing then we are going backwards-again.

We will know in the coming weeks what is proposed by Te Whatu Ora/ Health New Zealand, and we will respond accordingly.

Here's hoping that the reality is better than the rumours.

Ngā mihi maioha,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mark' with a horizontal line underneath.

Mark Liddle  
**Chief Executive**

## [PSAAP Update](#)

### **Contracted Provider Caucus**

At the PSAAP meeting held on April 30<sup>th</sup> the changes to the protocol were accepted, and for the first time ever a PSAAP meeting was held with a quorum of agents appointed by you - the Contracted Providers. The main order of business at this first meeting was process and representative approval.

A post PSAAP bulletin containing an update was sent to all members on May 6<sup>th</sup>.

GenPro held the mandate to represent just over 50% of the Contracted Providers that had appointed an agent, making us the single largest representative agent.

There have been several other agents appointed in the meantime, but we are holding around the 50% mark for the PSAAP meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup>. The papers for the upcoming PSAAP have not been released at the time of writing, so the topics for discussion are not confirmed. We will provide an update to all members that have appointed us as their agent in the coming weeks.

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## [NZNO MECA](#)

Bargaining has been initiated. By now all parties to the MECA should have received notification of the initiation of bargaining from NZNO. The NZNO have issued a follow up email which must be responded to.

If you are a GenPro MECA Subscriber or Comprehensive Member you will also have received our member only bulletin providing instructions on what you are required to do and by when.

Further guidance will follow as the process progresses. Please watch out for our GenPro MECA Subscriber or Comprehensive Member updates in your inbox to ensure that you are compliant with the requirements.

If you are party to the MECA and have not made provision for representation at the MECA bargaining table, you will need to do so.

Please email [membership@genpro.org.nz](mailto:membership@genpro.org.nz) if you would like more information on becoming a GenPro MECA Subscriber or Comprehensive Member.

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## [NZNO Primary Practice Pay Equity Claim](#)

We are still awaiting the second claim from the NZNO.

The recent announcement that the Government is dismantling the Pay Equity taskforce and framework suggests that it will be more challenging to get them

to meet the cost of the Primary Pay Equity Claim should it be settled. As reported previously this is expected to be a lengthy process.

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### **[GPCME Conference Rotorua : 6-9 June 2024](#)**

GenPro will be at the GPCME North and will have a stand in the exhibitors hall.

Members of the GenPro team and Board will be on the stand throughout the conference so please come and see us.

Whether you are an existing member, or thinking about joining, we would love to see you there.

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### **[Waikato Regional Meeting](#)**

A huge thank you to the Members who attended our regional meeting in Hamilton on May 16<sup>th</sup>. It is always good to connect with members face to face and share information and updates both ways.

It was also great to join members of PMAANZ at their meeting where we were able to share our perspective and answer questions from the managers present.

The Board of GenPro have committed to continuing with regional meetings with next one tentatively scheduled for August in Christchurch.

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### **[HR Round Up](#)**

As part of the GenPro member benefits we have released a separate newsletter with a focus on advice GenPro has sourced for members relating to MECA issues and any associated questions.

This is available to all Comprehensive Members and MECA Subscribers and will be released regularly. We welcome your feedback on this.

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### **[Website Refresh](#)**

GenPro is replacing its website and will launch the new site in August. This new site will include a member only section which will house a resource library including templates, newsletters, bulletins and copies of key documents such as survey results, reports and the MECA.

In the meantime, we are continuing to add to the old site and have recently added a PSAAP page.

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### [Why would you join GenPro?](#)

- To add to GenPro's collective national voice and growing mandate and therefore its ability to make a difference
- To work towards having a single voice representing General Practice Owners in Aotearoa
- To have a strong voice in national negotiations and discussions
- To have access to GenPro's exclusive range of member-only resources and briefings

Further information on the benefits of joining GenPro can be found [on our website](#) or by contacting [membership@genpro.org.nz](mailto:membership@genpro.org.nz)

Download the GenPro membership application

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Remember to follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn for current updates



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**Te Whatu Ora**  
Health New Zealand

### [Stakeholder Virtual Hui - Building the future of Health](#)

Te Whatu Ora are delighted to invite you to our next stakeholder virtual hui with Margie Apa, Chief Executive Health NZ and Riana Manuel, Interim National Director Haoura Māori Services Group.

In their June hui, Margie and Riana will both share updates and welcome two guest speakers.

Boyd Broughton, Chief Executive Officer Te Taumata Hauora o Te Kahu o Taonui, Te Tai Tokerau Iwi-Māori Partnership Board (IMPB) – Boyd will discuss the value and work of the IMPBs and their relationships with iwi partners to represent the voice of local Māori.

Sonny Taite, Chief Information Security Officer - Cyber-attacks are on the rise and the health sector is a regular target, given the valuable information health organisations hold. Sonny will share how you can use a range of simple steps and tools to help improve your cyber-security.

You'll have the opportunity to post questions via the event link and there will also be a focused question and answer session in the second half of the hui.

If you're unable to attend, we will share a recording [here](#).

Please share this invitation with anyone in your community who may be interested.

### **Stakeholder virtual hui**

**Date:** Thursday 6 June 2024

**Time:** 9.00 – 9.45am

**Click link:** [Building the future of health](#)

If you have any questions, please contact:

- Te Aka Whai Ora transition - [MHACommunications@teakawhaiora.nz](mailto:MHACommunications@teakawhaiora.nz)
- NZ Health Plan | Te Pae Waenga - [NZHP@TeWhatuOra.govt.nz](mailto:NZHP@TeWhatuOra.govt.nz)

### **Primary and Community Care funding boost for work-force development**

The interim NZ Health Plan, Te Pae Tata, identifies that strengthening primary and community care helps reduce the risk and burden of disease, reduces demand for more costly and intensive specialist care, and ultimately achieves better and more equitable health and wellbeing outcomes for New Zealanders.

So, Health NZ is introducing new funding to support the development of the primary and community health workforce.

The new funding will focus on further education and skills development for health workers in the primary and community care workforce (i.e. employed by PHOs, GP practices, Hauora Māori and Pacific community providers, or aged care providers).

Te Pae Tata also requires action with a strong focus on improving equity and access to primary health care. Research shows that expanding the skill mix available to primary care teams increases community access and improves

equity outcomes. Comprehensive primary care teams within local provider networks support this and have a priority focus on Māori, Pacific, and rural people.

### **Nationally funded workforce development**

A national fund is available to support primary and community care providers to attract, develop and retain health practitioners, through funding for postgraduate study courses that support skills development in primary care settings.

The funding will be given to education providers, to enable them to offer funded study for eligible participants.

Further information on the funding and eligibility criteria is on our website.

### **Regionally funded workforce development**

Funding has also been allocated at a regional level to train, supervise and mentor people who may not have previously worked in primary and community health settings, to deliver new services and to support service integration through the following initiatives:

- Funding for postgraduate study and vocational training courses that support skills development for a broader range of roles within primary care settings.
- Funding for release time, supervision, and other costs such as travel to support health workers to access postgraduate study and vocational training.
- Within regions, there will be engagement with primary and community providers to identify the training needs of eligible primary and community care health workers employed by PHOs, GP practices, Hauora Māori, and Pacific providers across the region.

Please visit the [Health NZ website](#) for more information and how to apply for this funding.

For further information contact: [Kamini.Pather@TeWhatuOra.govt.nz](mailto:Kamini.Pather@TeWhatuOra.govt.nz).

### **Winter Campaign Continued**

Research showed that through the advertising we motivated people to stay home if they were sick, preventing the spread of illness to others, specifically communities at higher risk of getting seriously unwell over winter.

The research found:

- Over winter, 2.2 million people were sick - 1.9 million were more aware of the need to stay home if sick, based on seeing the ads
- 1.2 million were influenced/motivated to stay home if sick, based on seeing the advertising -
- only 700,000 would have stayed home if sick if they hadn't seen the ads

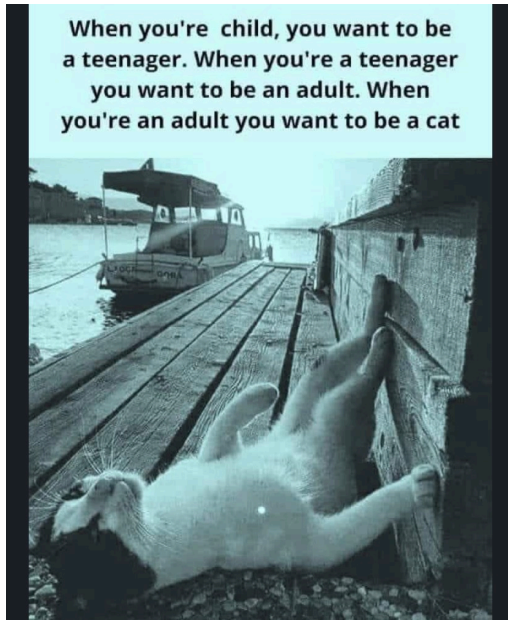
For winter 2024, we want to continue the positive impact of the campaign, and help everyone to stay healthy.

You can view the campaign [here](#).

For a full list of Te Whatu Ora updates visit : [News and updates – Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand](#)

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### [The Final Word...](#)



When you're child, you want to be a teenager. When you're a teenager you want to be an adult. When you're an adult you want to be a cat

***As always, member feedback and membership enquiries are always welcomed - email [enquiries@genpro.org.nz](mailto:enquiries@genpro.org.nz)***

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## By General Practice, for General Practice

- Membership enquiries/updates [membership@genpro.org.nz](mailto:membership@genpro.org.nz)
- MECA enquiries [meca@genpro.org.nz](mailto:meca@genpro.org.nz)
- Accounts enquiries [accounts@genpro.org.nz](mailto:accounts@genpro.org.nz)
- All other enquiries [enquiries@genpro.org.nz](mailto:enquiries@genpro.org.nz)

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