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Kia ora koutou,

Ensuring consistent communications is fundamental to ensuring we support district health boards and potential surge workers to respond to New Zealand's Omicron response. Please see below the developed key messages for the non-DHB Allied Health surge workforce initiative. I would be grateful if you utilise this and circulate to your members as soon as possible.

Non-DHB Allied Health professionals: Join the health surge workforce

About the Allied Health surge workforce initiative

- As the health system continues to respond to COVID-19, private and other non-district health board (DHB) allied health professionals are actively encouraged to work flexibly and contribute to local DHB's omicron response to support critical services to patients.
- This initiative supports and co-ordinates allied health professionals to work in the most appropriate and needed DHB services. This could be providing care to patients (COVID and non-COVID) in primary, community and hospital settings.
- This initiative was developed in conjunction with the Ministry of Health, the Responsible Authorities, Union representatives, the Professional bodies and the district health boards.

What do you need to know?

What will I be doing?

- You can expect to be employed within your scope of practice, within the professional department to which best aligns to your capability. Expansion of roles or work type will be managed by that department in conjunction with the DHB staff where appropriate.

Where will I be working?

- A whole-of-system response to Omicron means your skills will be desirable in primary, community and hospital settings.
- You can expect to work within your professional capacity and within your scope of practice. You could also be assisting permanent DHB staff in their clinical tasks and patient care such as clinical documentation, referral, input into MDT clinical discussions, mobilising patients, vital sign monitoring, assistive therapy, joint replacement exercises, patient hygiene and patient transferring between services.

What can I expect to be paid?

- Rates of pay are aligned to the relevant DHB allied health collective agreement and will be defined in your letter of offer and / employment agreement.
- You may be asked / requested to work shifts and/or after hours. Hours of work should be agreed between you and your manager at the DHB.

What about my indemnity insurance?

- As part of your employment contract, DHBs will be responsible for any associated indemnity issues.

How long could I expect to contribute?

- The impact of Omicron on our health system is expected to peak over the next 2-3 months.
- To ensure there is appropriate onboarding and maximum value to critical service delivery, we anticipate your contributions to your local DHB be a minimum of 2 weeks. This length of your contract should be determined and agreed with the DHB.

I'm interested! What do I need to do?

To register, please use the Hands Up database or contact your local regional coordination hub below:

- Northern: [Workforce Surge Register Form](#)
- Te Manawa Taki (Midlands): [via HandsUp Database](#)
- Central: [via HandsUp Database](#)
- South Island: [via HandsUp Database](#)

When you register, you will need to provide the following information:

- What your availability is (i.e specific days or hours of the week)
- What is your preferred site/s (i.e local hospital)

END

Thank you for your support and collaboration. I hope this information to useful when communicating with your members.

Ngā mihi aroha



Martin Chadwick
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