

# Minutes

## Clinical Assembly Meeting

**Date:** Thursday 24 November 2022

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**Time:** 1pm to 4:30pm

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**Location:** Rydges, Wellington Airport: 28 Stewart Duff Drive, Rongotai, Wellington and via Zoom

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**Chair:** Chris Jackson, Dunedin Hospital, Southern District, Te Whatu Ora

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Chris Hemmings, Clinical Director of Anatomical Pathology, Canterbury Health Laboratories (CHL) (also Executive member of NZSO and NZ rep for CPAs cancer services advisory committee)

Claire Hardie, Radiation Oncologist and Clinical Executive Cancer Services, MidCentral District, Te Whatu Ora (and Chair of ROWG) – via zoom

Heidi Watson, Clinical Lead, AYA Cancer Network, Auckland District, Te Whatu Ora

Humphrey Pullon – Haematologist, Waikato District, Te Whatu Ora; Clinical Lead, Te Manawa – via zoom

Ian Bissett – Colorectal & General Surgeon, Auckland District, Te Whatu Ora; University of Auckland – via zoom

James Entwisle, Consultant Radiologist and Clinical Director - 2 District Strategy, Performance & Planning, Capital & Coast and Hutt Valley Districts, Te Whatu Ora (also Chair National

**Attendees:** Radiology Advisory Group)

Justin Gulliver, Social Worker (Advanced Practitioner) and member of the Cancer Support Team, Capital & Coast District, Te Whatu Ora (also NZ rep on the Oncology Social Work Australia & NZ (OSWANZ) group)

Laura Clunie, Oncology Pharmacist, Canopy Cancer Care, Auckland – via zoom

Katherine King – Clinical Nurse Specialist; NZNO Cancer Nurses College rep. – via zoom

Sue Waters - Director of Allied Health, Auckland District, Te Whatu Ora; Chair National Directors of Allied Health – via zoom (part of meeting)

Catherine D'Souza - Palliative Medicine Lead, South Canterbury District, Te Whatu Ora; University of Otago

Stephen Laughton – Paediatric Oncologist, Auckland District, Te Whatu Ora; Clinical Lead, National Child Cancer Network

Rawiri Keenan, GP from the Royal New Zealand College of GPs – via zoom

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Sara Joice - Regional Lead and Health Psychologist, Southern District, Te Whatu Ora

Richard North, Medical Oncologist, Tauranga Hospital, Bay of Plenty District, Te Whatu Ora (and Chair of MOWG)

**Apologies:**

Alex Henderson, National Clinical Leader; Cancer Genetics, Genetic Health Service NZ

Ineke Meredith - Breast Surgeon, Capital & Coast District, Te Whatu Ora

Suzanne Beuker, Urology Surgeon, Nelson Marlborough District, Te Whatu Ora

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**Te Aho o  
Te Kahu  
attendees:**

Nicola Hill, Acting CEO (part of meeting)  
Elizabeth Dennett, Clinical Director  
Dawn Wilson, Chief Advisor and Manager – Clinical Advisory Team  
Elena Saunders, Principal Advisor  
Cushla Lucas, Manager – Central hub and Programme Manager – Cancer Services Planning (part of meeting)  
Sasha Webb, Senior Project Manager – Equity (part of meeting) – via zoom  
Andy Simpson, Clinical Advisor – Optimal Cancer Care Pathways  
Abby O’Neill, Project Manager - Optimal Cancer Care Pathways

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**Minutes:** Amanda Wooding, ONZL

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**Guests:** Vanessa Aplin, Te Whatu Ora

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**Item**

**Review of draft minutes from 28 July 2022 meeting, actions and conflicts of interest register**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2022 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

The **action register** was reviewed. Status of actions updated.

The **conflicts register** was reviewed. The following changes are to be noted:

Di Sarfati – no longer works for Te Aho o Te Kahu

Stephen Laughton – change from board member of NCCN to clinical lead, add as board member for Child Cancer Foundation

Chris Hemmings – no longer Clinical Director at CHL, change to Garden Pathologist, remove from Cancer Services Advisory Committee

Updates from recent HWG, MOWG, ROWG meetings were noted with the chairs from each group speaking to the written updates that were provided to the CA in advance of the meeting.

The Chair noted that Mary-Ann Hamilton and John McMenamin have both resigned from the Assembly and thanked them for their contributions. The Chair welcomed Katherine King and Rawiri Keenan as NZNO and RNZCGP representatives respectively.

**Cancer Services Planning Workshop**

**Cushla Lucas, Andy Simpson and Sasha Webb presented on behalf of Te Aho o Te Kahu**, updating on the CSP work to date.

1. Programme overview

- Outline: Phase II of CSP is focussed on providing implementation advice to Te Whatu Ora across different treatment modalities. A model of care approach is being taken, with a focus on treatment modalities, as well as cancer care coordination and optimal cancer care pathways.

2. Cancer care coordination

- Outline: Project will deliver advice to Te Aka Whai Ora and Te Whatu Ora about what is required to create nationwide access to cancer care coordination, initially for Māori and Pacific patients and whānau.
  - Discussion on what is meant by terms such as ‘non-clinical function’, ‘holistic needs assessment’ etc. Members advised that care is needed with definitions and scope of work, particularly as project looks to involve kaiāwhina.
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- Additional discussion on whether the work on NGOs is being considered (it is); pre-diagnosis and post-survivorship needs; National Travel Assistance; and clarification of our role as advisors rather than commissioners.

### 3. Optimal cancer care pathways (OCCP)

- OCCPs will support healthcare providers, services and professionals and whanau to improve cancer outcomes and experiences by describing and making transparent care expectations within the Aotearoa New Zealand

The group discussed the importance of pathways such as this and emphasised that these should be aligned to the work of Te Whatu Ora. The group discussed the scope – current publicly funded cancer care in Aotearoa New Zealand. This includes care that is currently accessible in some regions and not others, assuming that if it is publicly funded in any region it should be accessible to all.

### **Highlights of 2021/2022: review of annual report and plans for 2023**

**Nicola Hill presented**, updating the group on the report, and providing a high-level summary of the intentions for Te Aho o Te Kahu's 2023 work programme

**Members commented** that they would like to be more engaged in the business planning process of the agency, and that they would be interested to see the outputs of the agency's Leadership Group's 2023 business planning exercise. The matter of palliative care and its place in the cancer control continuum was discussed. Members commented that it was important that the agency keep a focus on all parts of the continuum, including palliative care.

### **Workforce taskforce – international recruitment campaign**

**Vanessa Aplin presented**, the work of the taskforce in relation to international recruitment.

**Members commented** that in addition to awareness it was important that barriers along the pathway to recruitment were also addressed.

### **Clinical Assembly feedback survey and how we will work together in 2023**

**Elena Saunders and Chris Jackson provided an update on behalf of Te Aho o Te Kahu.**

Details of a member feedback survey was presented.

Chair "elect": Any interest in the role to be flagged with Elena, but the appointment sits with Te Aho o Te Kahu, rather than election by the group.

**Members commented** that the hybrid meetings work well.

### **Actions of the meeting:**

Elena – update interest register to remove those people no longer on the group.

Elena - Distribute Te Aho o Te Kahu's letter regarding the Da Vinci surgical robot to members

Nicola - Share draft business plan when ready

Elena share results of the member feedback survey

Elena - Send out a doodle poll to gain feedback on proposed structure for 2023.

### **Next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled TBC.

### **Close**

The meeting closed with a Karakia at 4:34pm.