

New Zealanders have timely access to quality healthcare

Our vision: All New Zealanders have timely access to the care they need from primary care providers, to keep themselves healthy and to strengthen the overall responsiveness and sustainability of the health system

Strengthening funding settings

Improving performance

- New Primary Care Health Target: 80% of New Zealanders have GP access within one week
- Supported by a new national dataset and outcomes framework
- Performance based-funding linked to achieving results: 6-week immunisation rates

Funding that meets need

- Updating the way we fund general practice for the first time in 20 years
- Funding formula will include age, sex, morbidity, rurality and deprivation
- Regular reviews to keep funding fair and fit for purpose

Enhancing delivery models

Increased patient access

- New online GP 24/7 service for when people can't see their GP team
- Consistent sustainable urgent and after-hours care nationwide = 98% of Nzrs can reach urgent care within one hour's drive of home
- More acute and planned care in community settings



Outcomes: By end of 2028

Increased patient access to primary and community services

- 150 more GPs and 300 more NPs trained
- Shorter wait times for appointments with your GP
- More families can enrol with a local practice (fewer closed books)
- Early treatment to stop small issues becoming big ones – slower growth in ED numbers
- Confidence that urgent care is available nearby, wherever you live
- 24/7 online GP service available to all, when you can't see your GP team
- 12-month scripts: fewer trips to the GP just to renew a prescription – more affordable and convenient

Continuity of care with trusted providers

- Shared health record: your health information goes with you – safer care with reduced need to repeat your story (and less admin duplication for health services)

Comprehensive services in the community

- Broader range of tests to detect disease early across NZ
- Patients can get more specialist care in primary care settings – without going to hospital

Coordinated care

- Giving patients seamless transitions between services and providers
- Improved immunisation rates
- Joined up services support the delivery of health targets

Growing and retaining the workforce

Doctor pathway:

- Up to 50 domestic medical graduate in primary care training pathway
- 100 overseas-trained doctors supported into practice via primary care training pathway
- More support for GP training
- More medical students

Nurse pathway:

- 400+ employer incentives to employ Graduate RNs annually in primary care.
- Support for 120 nurses to advance education, including prescribing
- Expanded funding support for Nurse Practitioner training (180 funded places annually)

Improving access to medicines

- 12 month prescription lengths for some medicines
- Expanding prescriber rights to wider set of health professionals
- Freeing up GP time and making medicines easier to access

Total investment
\$641 Million
Over four years

What we've achieved so far



- 12% increase to capitation
- Online 24/7 GP care launched with over 42,000 consults so far
- Primary Care Health Target and National Data Set Development
- 31 international doctors started with districts (NZREX) – more to come



- Domestic GP pathway for up to 50 doctors – applications opened
- Graduate nurse funding, Nurse Practitioner training and Advanced Education scholarships – applications opened
- New regulations to support 12-month prescriptions introduced
- Urgent care and after-hours roll-out procurement – Dunedin, Lower Hutt, six rural prototypes – more to come