All District Health Boards

DHB Feedback on Pharmacy Service Model Review

2 July 2021

Independent Review of Community Pharmacy Services (Sapere)

- Future work on Service Models falls within the scope of the NZ Health Reforms announced recently
- We endorse the recommendation to develop a strategy for moving towards a more integrated primary healthcare sector, including development of a sector strategy that articulates the role of community pharmacy in an integrated healthcare system and the actions needed for integration, noting however the report also notes: "A movement towards a more integrated primary care system, and a redefinition of the role of community pharmacy in this system would have major implications for the roles and responsibilities undertaken by community pharmacists, as well as the skills and training they would need to add value across the healthcare system."
- The report does provide a useful framework of Micro, Meso and Macro to consider community pharmacy. This framework could be a useful construct to structure strategic conversations.
- The subsequent proposed levels to support evaluation of service redesign also has some useful elements.
- However, the role of the Consumer and Māori voice is not significantly present in the proposed framework and consequently weakens this model considerably.
- Overall the review is not as forward focused as the DHBs would have liked. There is a predominance of focus on matters that are already the subject of local and national discussion.
- We note the recommendation of a review of the community pharmacy funding model. The Minister of Health has signalled that consideration of funding models for primary and community services will be undertaken as part of the Reforms.
- The Review does not fully explore in a SWOT analysis issues of scale and current service model disruption currently occurring