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Dear Colleagues

Re: Health Provider Index (HPI) / South Island Regional Service Providers Index (RSPI)

I am writing to advise you that approval has been given for the Ministry of Health to upgrade the HPI system and the South Island Alliance has had approval for the implementation of the South Island Regional Service Provider Index. These initiatives represent a joint collaboration to extend the national HPI system to:

a. meet the immediate needs of the South Island DHBs
b. establish a system that can be leveraged by other DHBs and agencies with the broader health sector.

Having common standards and systems for information about health workers, organisations, facilities, services and teams is a foundational requirement for a smart health system in New Zealand. For over five years, numerous attempts have been made to identify or create a single source of truth to support the following five identity concepts and establish relationships between them in a standardised way:

Right Place – Organisation ID and Facility ID
Right Care – Service ID
Right Team – Team ID
Right Person – CPN ID

The current HPI system, which is being upgraded to encompass the five identity concepts described above, is a national database holding information to identify health providers. The current HPI comprises only three separate indexes for which the identifiers are:

a. Common Person Number (CPN) – issued to registered practitioners who provide health services
b. Org ID – issued to organisations that provide health services
c. Fac ID – issue to named facilities at which an organisation providers health services.

The upgraded HPI system and RSPI work will enable the following functionality:

a. Storing relationships between all those providing healthcare to patients, including those not governed by responsible authorities, the organisations, facilities, services and specialities.
b. Identifying care teams both within secondary and primary care.
c. The standardisation of speciality and sub-speciality identifiers.
d. The central repository of necessary contact details for those providing healthcare.
e. Provision of standards based Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) to access and maintain details within the HPI.

The HPI upgrade is required for the RSPI extensions to be implemented. The Ministry of Health and South Island Alliance will be working in partnership on this work. Once the HPI is upgraded and the RSPI

extensions are in place it will position the HPI as a national system that better meets the needs of the sector, encourages broader use and reduces the need for duplication.

While this work is being undertaken and to avoid duplication of work please consult with your Sector Portfolio Manager on any initiatives that maybe involved with the HPI.

In the coming weeks a timeline of work and communications strategy will be developed. Regular updates will be provided via the National Digital Systems monthly update and the Digital Health Report. In the meantime please feel free to contact Joel Brown (joel_brown@moh.govt.nz) if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Ann-Marie Cavanagh
Acting Deputy Director-General
Data and Digital

Send to: DHB CEOs, DHB CIOs, PHO CEOs, PHO CIOs, Regional Shared Service CEOs, Regional Shared Services CIOs