



District Nursing Service

The District Nursing Service provides specialised nursing care and treatment for patients in one of its clinics or, if a patient is housebound due to their medical condition, in the patient's home. The aim of the District Nursing Service is to work closely with patients, their family/whānau, caregivers and GP (doctor) to support and promote a healthy lifestyle, to help people remain independent.

Where appropriate, the District Nursing Service may also refer a patient to other healthcare professionals to ensure they receive the best care possible. This may include referral to a physiotherapist, occupational therapist, speech language therapist, social worker, dietician, needs assessment and service co-ordinator (NASC) and/or hospice.

What we do

- Assess a patient's needs and co-ordinate a plan of care: this ensures the patient receives the best care, treatment and support to promote and enable self-care.
- Specialised wound care for complex wounds: including leg ulcer assessment and treatment, until a wound is sufficiently healed for GP or self-care.
- Palliative care: working in partnership with the patient, their family/whānau, caregivers, GP, hospice and other providers involved in the patient's care the District Nursing Service will provide education and support as needed; including help with managing pain and any other physical symptoms being experienced.
- Assistance with the management of acute and long-term conditions which may require care or treatment, such as:
 - intravenous (IV) medication administration
 - urinary catheters and continence assessments
 - stoma care
 - injections including preventative treatment for Rheumatic Fever
 - PEG (feeding tube) care
 - tracheostomy care.
- Provision of short-term loan equipment if needed for nursing care.
- Education and advice about health care needs and/ or illness. Patients may be asked to complete simple procedures between visits from the District Nursing Service.
- Support and advice for patients undergoing chemotherapy and/or radiotherapy.

Frequency of visits and discharge

- A district nurse will assess your level of need to determine the frequency of visits required and when it is expected you will be discharged from the Service.
- Factors such as any home support or care you are currently receiving, or unexpected service capacity demands, may influence how our support is offered to you and early discharge from the Service back to your GP may be considered.

Infection Control

- Supplies brought into your home cannot be returned to the District Nursing Service car or base site (with the exception of equipment that can be cleaned and disinfected). We will request that you dispose of any used dressing products and/or other disposable items used by the district nurse in your household rubbish.

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- If your care requires the giving of injections, a sharps container will be provided and collected by us when full, or no longer needed.
- We understand that for cultural reasons you may ask visitors to remove their shoes before entering your home. It is, however, Te Whatu Ora Health NZ - Waitematā (Waitematā Health) policy that staff do not do this for health and safety reasons. District nurses are provided with shoe covers to prevent contamination and damage to flooring. Please let the nurse know if you would like them to use these.
- Before your visit, the district nurse may phone to check your COVID-19/respiratory illness status. Your district nurse will wear the recommended protective equipment (PPE) for your care and you will be asked to comply with current mask wearing rules according to Ministry of Health and Waitematā Health requirements.

Hours of Service

The District Nursing Service is based at five sites:

Waitakere Hospital – 7 days

55 Lincoln Road, Henderson

Phone: **(09) 837-8828**

Hours: 8.00am–9.30pm

North Shore – 7 days

Community Outpatients

9 Karaka Street, Takapuna

Phone: **(09) 486-8945**

Hours: 8.00am-9.30pm

Hibiscus Coast – 7 days

136 Whangaparaoa Road, Red Beach

Phone **(09) 427-0300**

Hours: 8.00am-9.30pm

Warkworth – 7 days

Tui House, 32 Glenmore Drive, Warkworth

Phone: **(09) 422-2700**

Hours: 8.00am-4.30pm

Helensville – 7 days

65 Commercial Road, Helensville

Phone: **(09) 427-0300**

Hours: 8.00am-4.30pm

We are available to talk to you about any aspect of your care – please ask if you have any questions, need more information or support of any kind.

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