

**ADDRESSING INEQUITIES FOR
MĀORI AND VULNERABLE PEOPLE LIVING IN
RURAL POPULATIONS WITH SOCIO-ECONOMIC
DISADVANTAGE**

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The case of Tainui

67-year-old Maori male

Diagnosed COPD in 2021 very severe obstruction

Current smoker for 45 years

Hx asthma since 20's

Phone call for COPD education

Hx of exacerbations x 3 in 3 months

During the COVID-19 outbreak in 2022

Northland DHB respiratory service was not performing spirometry

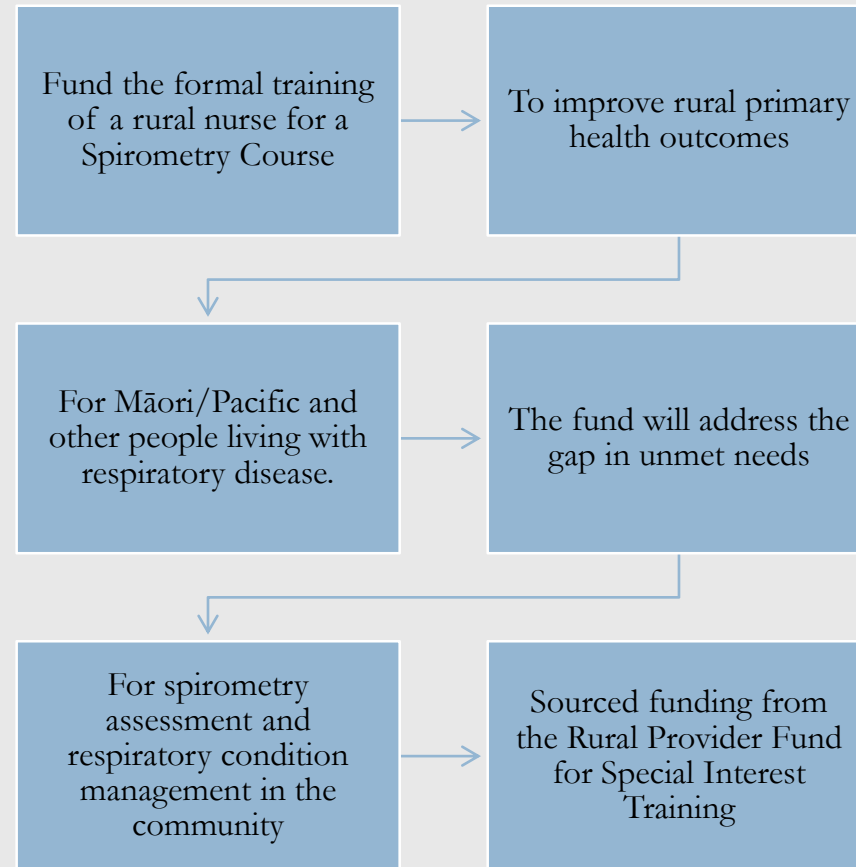
All respiratory clinics were postponed

Presented a barrier to optimal healthcare

Especially for Māori and vulnerable people living in rural populations with socio-economic disadvantage.

Barriers

Proposal to address the gap



An aerial photograph showing a dark river meandering through a lush, dense green forest. The river flows from the top left towards the bottom right, with several large, rounded islands of forested land protruding into the water. The overall scene is a vibrant, natural landscape.

Addressing inequity for Northland

- Predominantly rural population
- 2/3 population outside the Whangarei urban area
- Many people live in isolated locations
- Northland DHBs priority for better population health outcomes
- Supported by primary care
- To reduce hospital-based interactions

RESPIRATORY DISEASE IN NORTHLAND

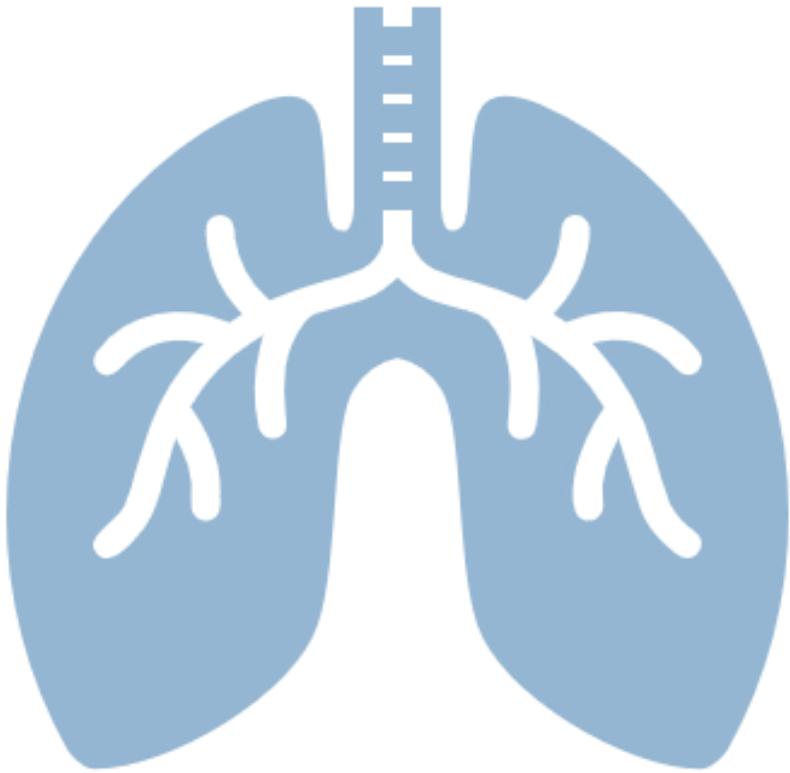
Māori < 75 years have
3.5 x the non-Māori rate
of death

Māori aged ≥ 45 years
are 4 x as likely as non-
Māori to be admitted to
hospital for COPD

COPD hospitalisation
rates are higher for
Māori than non-Māori
in each age group

The background features a complex, layered pattern of green and teal colors, creating a sense of depth and movement. A thin white rectangular border frames the central text.

HOW DO WE GIVE
EQUITABLE CARE?



Offering a spirometry service

- Spirometry assessment services in the Mid-North
- the PHO invests in a primary and community initiative
- Enable Māori and other people living with respiratory disease timely access to care
- An improved patient experience
- Avoid hospital admissions for Māori and vulnerable people



Equity principle of te Tiriti o Waitangi

COMMITMENT TO
ACHIEVING EQUITABLE
HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR
MĀORI

AN IN-PERSON
SPIROMETRY CLINIC

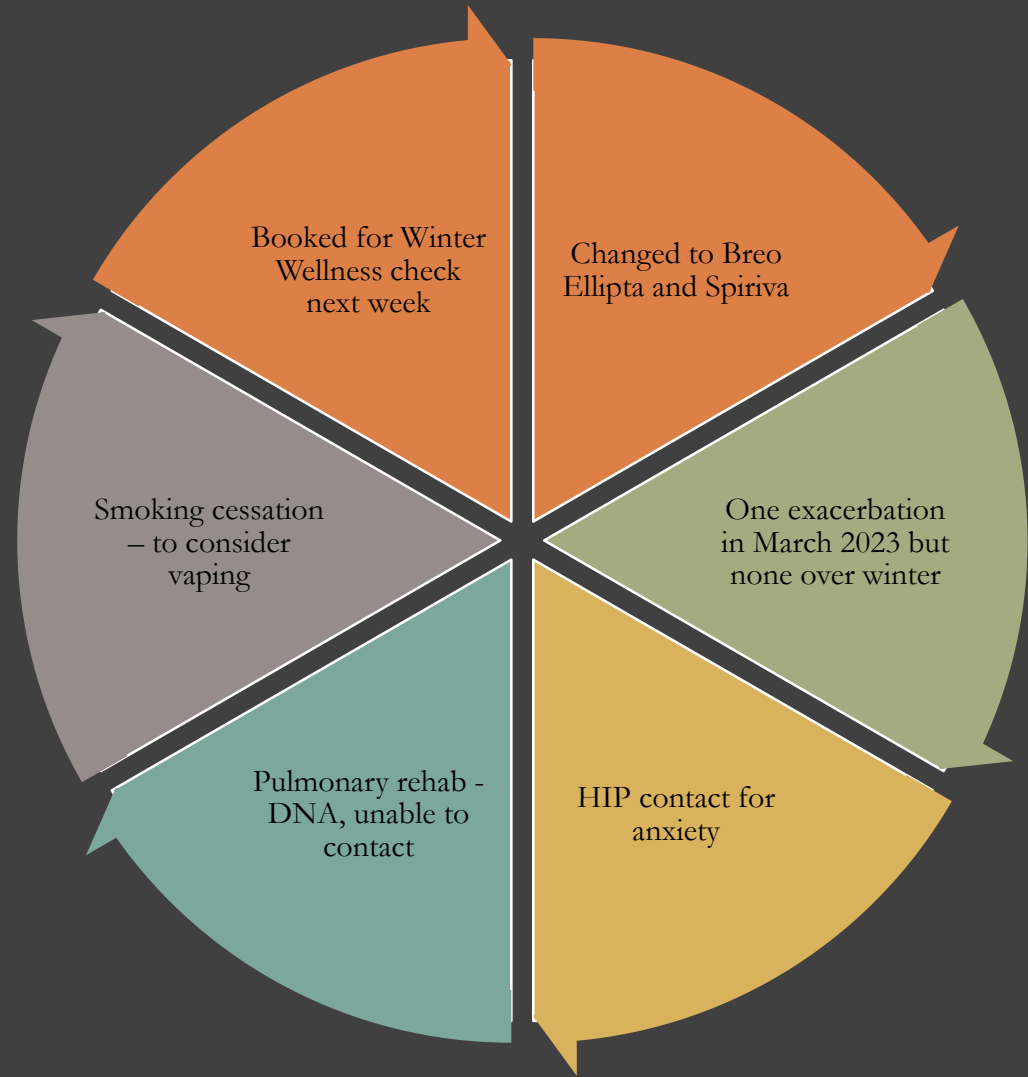
PROVIDE HEALTH
INFORMATION ABOUT
RESULTS EFFECTIVELY

SUPPORT MĀORI
INDIVIDUALS AND
WHANAU TO DEVELOP
HEALTH LITERACY

DEVELOPMENT OF
MEANINGFUL
PARTNERSHIPS WITH
MĀORI, THEIR WHANAU,
AND COMMUNITIES

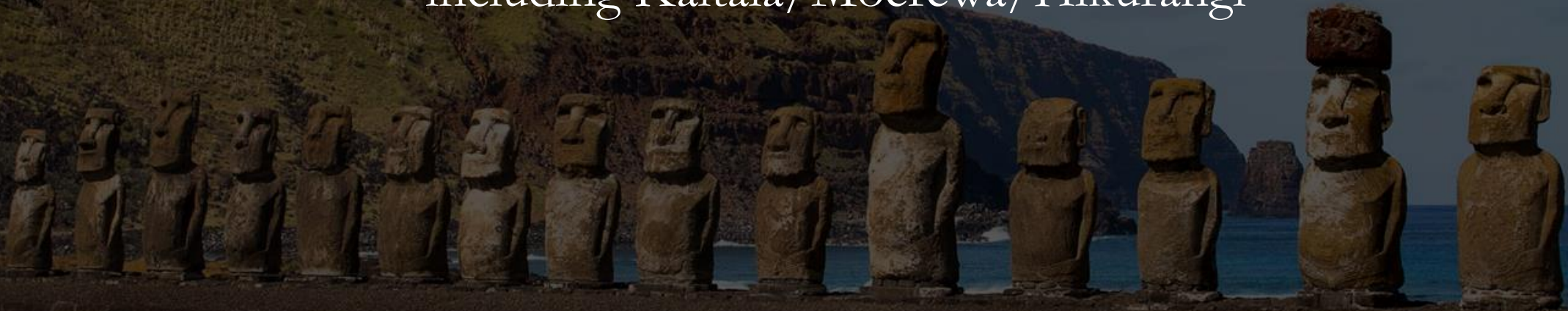
MEET HEALTH CARE
NEEDS AND
ASPIRATIONS FOR WELL-
BEING

AN
ASPIRATION
FOR
WELLNESS
FOR TAINUI



41% of spirometry performed

for Maori/Pacifica and vulnerable people from Northland areas
including Kaitaia/Moerewa/Hikurangi



Mahitahi Spirometry Workshop

- Full competency spirometry course
- Thursday 25th Jan 2024
- Cornerstone Church – Kerikeri
- Portfolio requirement for certification
- Rural SLAT fund available for equipment

Winter Wellness consults

- For Maori/Pacifica with COPD
- Symptom/exacerbation review
- PCV13/PCV23 immunisations
- Prescribing outcomes
- Onward referrals

PHO funded opportunities

Referrals

Referrals for patients in the Far North and Whangārei can be sent via HealthLink to Mahitahi Hauora.

The central coordination hub will facilitate referrals to a private provider.

Patients in the Mid North can be referred to Paihia Medical Centre (edi: paihiasy) via Healthlink



THANK YOU