

HPV Screening –POC

Empowering Rural New Zealand



Bev Lawton POC23 Sydney 2023

Te Tātai Hauora o Hine | National Centre for Women's Health Research

Aotearoa New Zealand

Tēnā koutou katoa

- We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of Australia. We acknowledge the Gadigal of the Eora Nation are the traditional custodians of this place now called Sydney.
- Privileged to walk on your whēnua(land)

Funding

- New Zealand Health Research Council
- 2x GeneXperts borrowed from Australian Centre for the Prevention of Cervical Cancer (ACPCC)
- 1X GeneXpert borrowed from Cepheid for substudy 'Shear-a-Thon



**CAPITAL THINKING.
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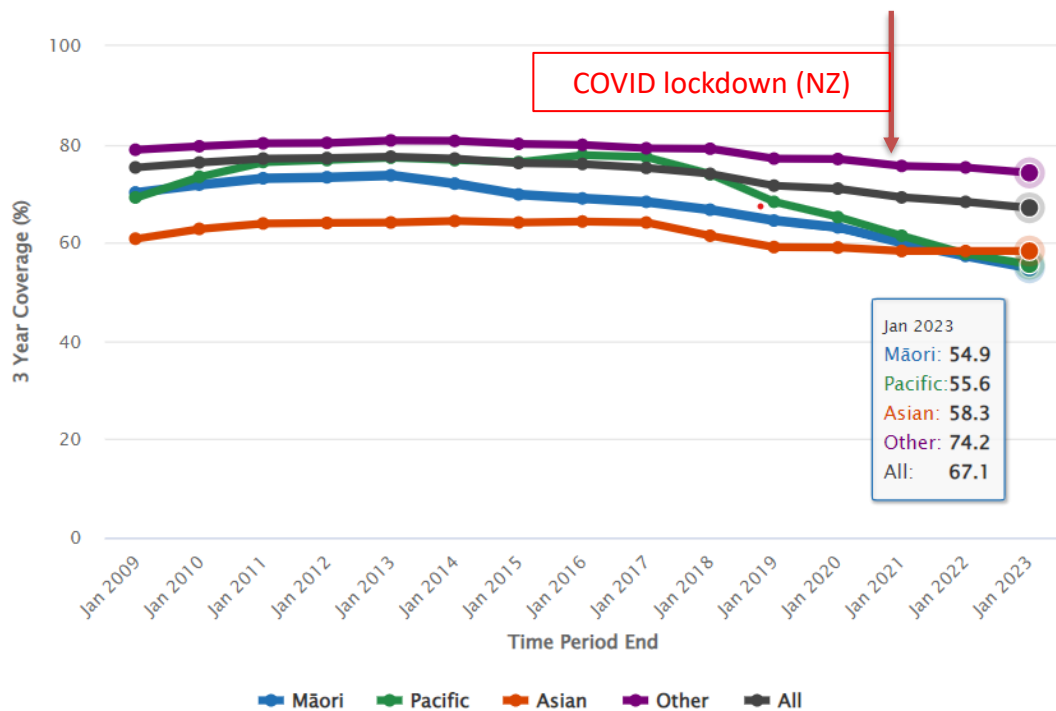
He Tapu Te Whare Tangata

[sacred house of humanity]

- Goal - decreasing morbidity and mortality from cervical cancer for wāhine Māori
- Iwi (tribal) Consultation, Guidance, Governance, and ownership
- “Doing something differently”

Cervical cancer screening - Aotearoa

3 Year Coverage by Ethnicity, New Zealand, 25 to 69, 15 years to Jan 2023



- Our screening programme is failing Māori
- Break through cancers likely (COVID, flooding)
- **NZ Primary HPV program with self-testing due to commence 2023**

<https://tewhatuora.shinyapps.io/nsu-ncsp-coverage/>

Indigenous Peoples

- Structural barriers/ racism
- Rurality
- Equity Levers/ tools are a priority
- Community tribal owned/informed by



HPV self-testing is an equity tool



- More effective
- More equitable
- More acceptable
- More comfortable
- More accessible



Empowering Rural Aotearoa

- In progress (2020 – 2023)
- A mixed methods Kaupapa Māori study
- **Cluster crossover intervention trial**
- Community/Iwi/researcher partnership with governance by Ngāti Pāhauwera and Ngāti Porou
- Innovative model to enable the community to control their health care delivery pathways



QN: Does a community controlled cervical screening pathway, paired with Point-of-Care technology lead to timelier colposcopy?

Intervention



1. HPV self-test
2. Point of Care testing
3. Results in 1 hr.
4. Immediate information & support
5. Date for colposcopy

Control



1. HPV self-test
2. Sent to lab
3. Result to practice
4. Result seen by GP/nurse
5. Patient contacted
6. Referral sent – email ,letter
7. Booked at colposcopy clinic
8. Patient notified

Point-of-care (POC) results

- Cepheid GeneXpert-HPV test
- Automated, easy to use technology
- Enables on site POC results in one hour
- Fully validated for HPV - it tests for 14 high risk HPV and differentiates HPV16 and HPV18/45
- The WHO has adopted this test currently being used in other countries for remote / rural screening



<https://www.cepheid.com/en/tests/Sexual-Health/Xpert-HPV>

Lessons learned establishing PoC clinics in remote Aotearoa/ New Zealand

- See Poster 35
- Established 3 remote clinics with training and quality assurance. Very well received



Outcomes

Primary Outcome- Intervention vs Control

Proportion of women with an HPV positive test having a colposcopy within 20 working days (Ministry Indicator).

Secondary Outcomes: Intervention vs Control

1. *Proportion of women with an HPV positive test having a colposcopy within 40 days (MOH indicator) ⁵*
2. *Time from test to patient notification of results (positive or negative)*
3. *Time from test to treatment for women with positive results/high grade histology*

For both groups: (Intervention and Control)

1. *Numbers of HPV positive and HPV negative results*
2. *Numbers of high grade lesions (CIN2 CIN3, Carcinoma)*
- *Proportion of under-screened / never screened women receiving test and follow up*

Crossover completed May 2022



Finishes late 2023...

Preliminary Numbers

Period 1

- **743** tests . Equal numbers both arms
- **7.3 %** HPV pos
- **30%** underscreened/ never screened
- Women and staff love the HPV self-test
- They don't want to give up their lab!

Shear-a-thon

feasibility & acceptability sub-study

- Rural solutions
- POC HPV
- Colposcopy – gynae Bus
- Improving access

Collaboration

- **Te Waka Wahine Hauora: the woman's health bus**
- Te Tātai Hauora o Hine, National Centre for Women's Health Research Aotearoa
- Cepheid (lent the Gene Xpert)
- Shearers Plus Plus









Acceptable and feasible

Provided no cost to person health care to 21 people over 2 days

Completed 14 point of care HPV tests

Performed 2 colposcopies

Referred 1 colposcopy

3 planned for bus clinics

Qualitative Interviewing

Dairy next

Challenges

- VTNZ
- Internet
- Accessing NCSP register
- Letting people know who we were
- 35C for those outside
- Pouring rain
- Wind



Kia ora -Thank-you

- Queen Street Practice, Wairoa and Ngāti Porou Hauora, East Coast ,Tairāwhiti and their patients for support , ownership and participation in this project.
- Ngāti Pāhauwera
- Our Kaumātua (elders)

Cast

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Pātai Questions?

Ngā mihi koutou

Thank you

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