

### 1. Waikato Hospital acute referral system

Please note important changes to the process for acute referrals which take effect from **Monday, 20 June**. In the first instance, please telephone 07 839 8676 and ask to be put through to the appropriate registrar. Your call will be forwarded to the registrar's mobile phone. After discussion with the registrar, please fax your referral letter, as you do now, to the current emergency department number 07 839 8907. This system will be trialled for three months and aims to enable discussion regarding pre-presentation planning and possible alternatives to acute presentation. Please see enclosed letter and flow chart for details.

### 2. Information system updates

#### Clinical Workstation & Document Project:

E-Discharge Summary Investigation Commences. Waikato DHB's CWS (Clinical Workstation & Document Management Project) has commenced testing and configuration of an electronic discharge summary module capable of sending electronic discharge summaries direct to primary care patient management systems. Current plans are to test the module in several selected inpatient services, which would be followed by a rollout to cover all services. GPs may start to receive paper-based and electronic discharge summaries from the pilot units from as early as July this year.

**Client Administration System.** Ministerial approval has been granted to proceed with this project and contracts have been signed with the vendor iSOFT. This major project will see the implementation of the successor to HOSPRO-W across the Waikato DHB over the next 20 months. The Client Administration System has an extensive function covering all administrative aspects of patient care, including patient demographics, capturing details of the patient journey through Health Waikato and the administration of all appointments. Benefits of the new system will include improved patient outcomes and reduced clinical risk through the provision of accurate, relevant and timely information.

### 3. Sitting in on specialist clinics

Members of Waikato Postgraduate Medicine Inc will have received a questionnaire from Angela Hancock asking for expressions of interest in the possibility of setting up a system to enable GPs to sit in on specialist clinics to refresh their knowledge in specific areas. Please do take a moment to complete this. If there is a need out there, Angela and I will try to make it happen.

### 4. Breast physician position: Position No. 28614

The Waikato Breast Care Unit has an opportunity for a part time breast physician or general practitioner interested in training as a breast physician. An interest and experience in the management of breast problems would be useful, but not essential.

The unit sees some 1,000 new patients a year and more than 2,000 follow ups. Two part-time breast physicians and four breast surgeons, along with other members of the multi-disciplinary team; work in the unit, which has an active breast research programme underway and is fully equipped for full same day work-up of breast problems. The unit has a close working relationship with the radiology, oncology

and pathology departments and participates in regular multi-disciplinary meetings. Employment conditions include CME allowances for attendance at local and international conferences.

**Closing date: 29 July 2005**

**For more information: Janet Hanvey, Manager: Surgical Services, Waikato Hospital 07 839 8899.**

**Applications to Recruitment Centre, Waikato District Health Board, PO Box 934, Hamilton**

### 5. 'Shuttlebugs'

From **20 June**, Waikato Hospital will provide on-campus transport for patients and visitors requiring assistance to get from carparks to hospital buildings. The two new golf buggies have been nicknamed 'shuttlebugs' by the hospital volunteer drivers. Service and campus redevelopment (SCR) project director, Ian Wolstencroft, says the shuttlebugs will come in handy to help people get around current and future construction zones.

### 6. Linac bunker construction update

From **13 June** for approximately eight weeks, piling begins on the new linac bunker outside Lomas. This work will cause some moderate noise levels. The activity will take place at the following approximate times:

Weekdays: 5:00pm – 9:00pm

Weekends: 8:00am – 5:00pm

We do apologise for the inconvenience this increased noise level may cause.

A big **THANK YOU** goes to the Oncology Department, who are to start their day at 6:00am during this period so that patient appointments are completed before piling begins at 5:00pm.

We also acknowledge the co-operation received from the team in MRI.

### 7. Welcome to ...

**Alan Farnell**, palliative care physician, who has joined the palliative care unit after 20 year's experience in the field. His particular interests are domiciliary care, working with GPs to provide best possible quality of life at home, and all aspects of symptom control. He worked in pain management before committing himself to palliative care and the hospice philosophy. He says he looks forward to working with GPs and providing assistance when the going gets tough.

**Kim McAnulty**, radiologist, who is back after 12 months in Oxford. She says that while on her travels she expanded her interest in both thoracic radiology and European wines. She looks forward to continuing with both in Hamilton!

### Vale

**Niazi Kraya**. It is with sadness that we mark the recent death of Niazi Kraya, A/Director Forensic Services. Niazi was a generous and warm doctor, who changed things for the better – for patients and for his colleagues. Compassionate and kind, he was determined to rebuild a high quality forensic service. He came to the Waikato as the first Director of the Forensic Psychiatry Service, which he set up from scratch to include extensive inpatient and community components which cover the middle third of the North Island.

Linda Rademaker, GP Liaison - Telephone 07 839 8899 ext 6795, Fax 07 839 8810, Mobile 021 296 6341

Email rademakl@waikatodhb.govt.nz

June 2005

Clinic	Category	Waiting Time
Audiology	Children 9-32 mths	2 months
	Under 17 years	2-3 months
	Children's hearing aids	4 weeks
	Adult diagnostic tests	4 months
	Adult hearing aids	6 months
	Central auditory processing test	12 months
Breast Care	Urgent	3 weeks
	Semi-urgent *BCC Imaging	10-12 months 2 weeks
Cardiac Surgery	Urgent	1-3 weeks
	Semi-urgent	3-6 weeks
Cardiology	Urgent	1-2 months
	Semi-urgent	2-9 months
	Routine	9-12 months
Colposcopy	Invasive	Within 7 days
	High grade	4 weeks
	Low grade	26 weeks +
	Non cervical	26 weeks +
Dental	Urgent	24 hours
	Semi-urgent	3 weeks
	Routine	2 months
Dermatology (1) Fax urgent referrals to 07 839 8670	Urgent	24 hours
	Semi-urgent Routine	6 weeks 6 months
Paediatric Dermatology		7 months
Hands		2 months
Dermatology Lesion Clinic	Urgent	24 hours
	Routine	6 months
Diabetes Consultant (2)	Urgent	3-4 months
	Semi-urgent	5-6 months
	Routine	6 months +
Diabetes Nurse Educator	Urgent	Within 7 days
	Semi-urgent	Within 6 weeks
Endocrinology	Urgent	1-2 months
	Semi-urgent	2-6 months
	Routine	9-12 months
Endoscopy/Colonoscopy	Medical	4-6 weeks
	Surgical	4-6 weeks 4-6 weeks 24 months
ENT	Urgent	1-3 weeks
	Semi-urgent (children)	Up to 6 months
	Semi-urgent (adults)	Up to 8 months
Gastro-enterology	Urgent	2-4 weeks
	Semi-urgent	2-6 weeks
General Medicine	Urgent	1-2 weeks
	Semi-urgent	2-4 weeks
	Routine	2-3 months
General Surgery	Urgent	1-4 weeks
	Semi urgent	3-5 months
	Routine	11-12 months
Gynaecology	Urgent	2 weeks
	Semi-urgent	3 months
	Routine	6-7 months
Haematology	Urgent	2-8 weeks
	Semi-urgent	6-4 weeks
	Routine	4-10 months
	DVT	4 months
Maxillo-facial	Urgent	Within 24 hours
	Semi-urgent	Within 1 week
	Routine	2 months
Neurology	Urgent	1-3 months
	Semi-urgent	3-10 months
	EMG urgent	1-4 months
	Routine	4-6 months
	EEG urgent routine	2-8 weeks 2-6 months

Clinic	Category	Waiting Time
Oncology (medical and radiation) Medical	Priority 1	24 hours
	Priority 2	5-10 working days 15-20 working days
	Priority 3	
Radiation	Priority 1	24 hours
	Priority 2	5-10 working days
	Priority 3	30-35 working days
Ophthalmology	Urgent	1 month
	Urgent laser	1-3 weeks
	Semi-urgent – Children	6 months
	Semi-urgent – Adults	11 months
	Semi-urgent (diabetic) Minor Operation Clinic	1 month 12 months
Orthopaedic	General	Under 6 months
	Back pain	Up to 8 months
	Paediatrics	Up to 7 months
	Paediatric Gait Clinic	1-4 weeks
Paediatric Medicine	Urgent	2-3 weeks
	Semi-urgent	2 months
	Routine	2-3 months
Paediatric Surgical	Urgent	1 week
	Semi-urgent	Within 2 weeks
	Routine	3 weeks
Pain clinic	Urgent	Up to 3 months
	Semi-urgent	Up to 5 months
	Routine	6 months
Physiotherapy	General musculoskeletal	5 days (urgent) 6-8 weeks (routine) 2-3 weeks
	Respiratory	4 weeks
	Rheumatology	2 days (urgent)
	Women's Health	2-3 weeks (routine)
Plastics (1) Fax immediate/acute referrals to 07 839 8670	Urgent	2 weeks
	Semi-urgent	4 months
	Routine	6 months +
Plastics Lesion clinic	Urgent	2 weeks
	Semi-urgent	3 months
	Routine	6 months +
Rehabilitation	Day Clinic	1-3 weeks
Renal	Urgent	1-4 weeks
	Semi-urgent	2-4 months
	Routine	4-6 months
Respiratory	Urgent	1-4 weeks
	Semi-urgent	1-2 months
	Routine	4-6 months
Rheumatology (3)	Urgent	1-4 weeks
	Semi-urgent	1-2 months
	Routine	2-4 months
Thyroid	Urgent	2-4 weeks
	Semi-Urgent	4 months
	Routine	4-6 months
Ultrasound	Urgent	2 weeks
	Semi-urgent	7-8 months
	Routine	12-15 months
Urology		Within 2 months
Vascular	Urgent	1-4 weeks
Vascular Surgery	Urgent	1-4 weeks
	Semi-urgent	2-4 months
	Routine	4-6 months
<b>Adult Mental Health Waiting Times</b>		
Community mental health team	Crisis referrals Non-crisis/routine	Within 24 hours Within 10 days

- 1 Immediate & urgent dermatology/plastics cases must be discussed with the specialist or registrar to allow appropriate prioritisation.
- 2 All urgent diabetes referrals can be seen on the same day.
- 3 All urgent rheumatology cases should be discussed with the rheumatologist.
- 4 Carotid studies are now being done by the vascular laboratory.
- 5 OPHTHALMOLOGY – PLEASE NOTE FAXED REFERRALS ARE NOT ACCEPTED UNLESS THE PATIENT IS ACUTE AND YOU HAVE DISCUSSED THE CASE WITH THE REGISTRAR. ON YOUR ACUTE FAX REFERRAL PLEASE ADVISE THE NAME OF THE DOCTOR WITH WHOM YOU DISCUSSED THE CASE.