



As the end of the year is rapidly approaching I would like to bring you up to date with events in the Trust over the last few months.

New Board Chairwoman

Professor Richards resigned as the Board Chairman and Mrs Gill Coulam was appointed as Chairwoman at our October Board meeting.

Gill is a funeral celebrant, on the committee and Trust board of Eden Garden Society, Chairman of the Movement Disorder Trust, and involved in several voluntary organisations. She was appointed to the Christian Healthcare Trust Board in 1993.

Waiuku Estuary Village

Our development project at Waiuku was completed in September with 20 hospital beds added to the facility. Dr Paul Hutchison, MP for Hunua officially opened the extension on 15th November.

Hillcrest Dementia Unit

The Hillcrest dementia unit extension and refurbishment project was completed in September and Board members joined Hillcrest staff and representatives from NASC and the DHB for a celebratory afternoon tea.

InterRAI

InterRAI is a collaborative network of researchers in over 30 countries committed to improving health care for persons who are elderly, frail, or disabled. Their goal is to promote evidence-based clinical practice and policy decisions through the collection and interpretation of high quality data about the characteristics and outcomes of persons served across a variety of health and social services settings.

The InterRAI Long Term Care Facility (LTCF) is a comprehensive, standardized instrument for evaluating the needs, strengths, and preferences of those in chronic care and nursing home institutional settings. The InterRAI LTCF has been designed to be compatible with other internationally used InterRAI instruments for home care, community mental health, in-patient mental health, acute care, palliative care, and post-acute care. The compatibility of assessment elements improves the continuity of care through a seamless health assessment system across multiple settings, and promotes a person-centered approach to care. The InterRAI LTCF consists of an assessment form, item-by-item instructions, and a series of care planning protocols.

The assessment form enables a health care provider to assess key domains of function, mental and physical health, social support, and service use.

DHBs and New Zealand Aged Care Association (NZACA) have established a combined project to implement the InterRAI across the aged residential care sector over a five year period.

All 9 CHT sites were chosen as early adopters for implementing the InterRAI.

The first training session involved 11 of our staff: Carol Ropati and Liz Webb from Head Office, Cindy Robertson from Amberlea, Minna Vuorinen from Onewa, Madeline Dela Rosa from St Margarets, Ricci Ybanez from Lansdowne, Allyson Engel from St Johns, Sharmilia Devaraj from Royal Oak, Stella Ma from St Christophers, Roma Tarranza from Hillcrest and Helen Jenkin from Waiuku.

We had excellent feedback from the InterRAI trainers about the competence and compassion of these trainees. Thank you all for the effort you have put into this training and working through your first assessments.

We are currently investigating how we can integrate the InterRAI assessment process with our patient management system, VCare.

Liverpool Care Pathways (LCP)

The LCP is an integrated care pathway that is used at the bedside to drive up sustained quality of the dying in the last hours and days of life.

It is a means to transfer the best quality for care of the dying from the hospice movement into other clinical areas, so that wherever the person is dying there can be an equitable model of care.

A project team led by Carol Ropati and Liz Webb and involving Jan Barrow from Lansdowne, Mathilda Matthews from St Margarets and Sue Calvo from Hillcrest is planning the implementation of LCP across the Trust. St Johns will be our first site for implementing LCP with strong support from ADHB's LCP facilitator, Aylene Parker and Sara Rishworth, Palliative Care Specialist from Mercy Hospice.

Christmas Message

As Christmas rapidly approaches I would like to thank all of our staff for your work and commitment to our residents this year. It has been another busy year for the Trust and I appreciate the effort you make in caring for our residents.

I hope you and your families have a happy and safe Christmas.

Max Robins
Chief Executive