December 2025

Hepatitis C Programme

Central Region Update

Seasons Greetings & Meri Kirihimete!

We hope you manage to have time for a restful holiday over the festive season and enjoy some holiday cheer with friends and whānau. Our service is taking a break from 24 Dec – 5th Jan, with the nursing team back from the 12th Jan. Ngā mihi o te wā.

Hep C Team Update



Melissa and Mel Mulholland-Simpson

Thank you for your continued support of the Hep C Programme. We are excited to share that in September we received the 2025 Primary Health Care Award for the Healthcare NZ Best Supplier, Service, Product or Campaign – something we couldn't have achieved without your support and collaboration in the community. Melissa, one of our RN's was on hand in Auckland to collect the award.

In November we welcomed Sarah Mitchell into the Hep C Team. Sarah is an RN who joined us from a community outreach role in the Hutt Valley, so will perhaps be known to some of you.



Sarah Mitchell

Sarah will be collaborating with community providers and supporting people through hepatitis C screening and treatment.

Hep C Screening updates

The Central Region has now completed over 12,000 hepatitis C community screening tests, with 325 people identified as being exposed to hepatitis C virus.

The needle exchange peer clinics continue to find the highest incidences of people exposed to hepatitis C.

In collaboration with pharmacists we are now able to supply treatment without prescription, and a few people have now been successfully cured through this pathway. More information on this pathway is available here [Reclassification of hepatitis C treatment – Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora]

Stick it to hep C.

We have had the opportunity to screen at Hauora events in Whanganui and Horowhenua over the last few months. These events were great for not only providing free screening but also engaging with the community and sharing how to prevent hepatitis C and other blood-borne infections. If you would like our support at your community event please contact us to discuss how we can help.



Katherine from Te Waka Huia offering hep C screening at the Horowhenua Hauora Day in November

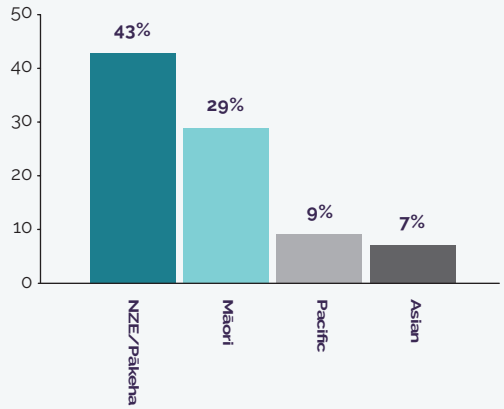
Hep C screening kits

Please check for Jan 2026 expiry dates!

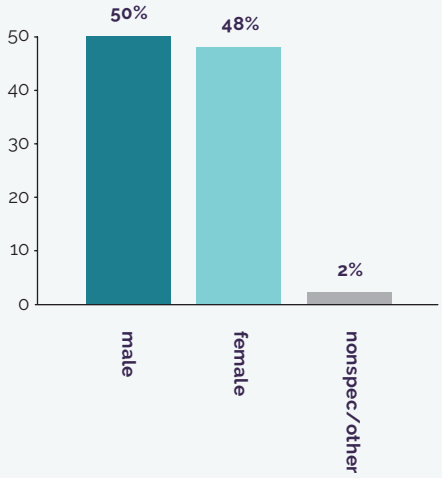
The team have been busy visiting community screening partners and rotating stock to replace Bioline screening kits that expire in January 2026. If we have not already been in touch please do check your stock expiry and let us know if you will need updated test kits – email hepcservice@tuora.org.nz

Hep C Screening

Percentage of tests by ethnicity



Percentage of tests by gender



Contact us

Tū Ora Compass Health
Central Region Hep C Programme
Phone: 0800 195 115
Email: hepcservice@tuora.org.nz

Free treatment available.
For more information visit the website Hep C Awareness (stickittohepc.co.nz)

Need something else?
Email us here: hepcservice@tuora.org.nz

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