
To:	General Practices, Pharmacists, After-Hours Centres and Emergency Departments in the greater Wellington and Wairarapa regions
From:	Dr Jill McKenzie, Medical Officer of Health
Date:	10 April 2019
Title:	Public Health Alert: Water Contamination Martinborough Supply

Please distribute the following information to relevant staff in your organisation.

All public health alerts are available at www.rph.org.nz/publichealthalerts

Water Contamination Martinborough Supply

- A Boil Water Notice was issued for the Martinborough Water Supply on 9th April 2019 following detection of a new positive E. coli result in the town supply from a sample taken 8th April 2019.
- To date no illness has been associated with this current contamination event but there is the potential for people to present with concerns regarding having consumed the water.
- If people present with gastroenteritis symptoms, follow the routine guidelines regarding when to request a faecal specimen (e.g. persistent diarrhoea, severe symptoms or susceptible group - <https://bpac.org.nz/BPJ/2009/December/gastro.aspx>). Please note on the lab request form if they have been drinking Martinborough town supply water.
- If you are seeing more gastroenteritis cases than expected for this time of the year, or a cluster of illness in friends or family, please ring Regional Public Health 04 570 9002 to discuss.

For latest information on the contamination and boil water notice, follow South Wairarapa District Council on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SouthWairarapaDistrictCouncil> or their website which include some helpful FAQs: <http://www.swdc.govt.nz/martinborough-boil-water-notice-faq>