
To:	General Practices, Pharmacists, After-Hours Centres and Emergency Departments in the greater Wellington and Wairarapa regions
From:	Dr Annette Nesdale, Medical Officer of Health
Date:	26 March 2020
Title:	National Health Advisory: Update on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) response

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

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

National Health Advisory

Update on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) response

ADVISORY SUMMARY:

Current demand for personal protective equipment (PPE) is unprecedented. The Ministry recognises this is causing concern among the increasing number of clinical staff being brought in to help manage the COVID-19 outbreak. Measures to address immediate needs, which include a limited urgent release of equipment and accompanying guidance, will be announced within 24 hours. These measures are in addition to a longer term solution which is also being worked through. The safety of staff is a top priority as we work through this fast-evolving and challenging time.