

Te Pāti Māori Health Policy

In Control of Our Own Oranga

Executive Summary

The inconvenient truth is that the health system fails Māori.

The evidence for this assertion is outlined in the Health & Disability System Review - also known as the Simpson Review (2020).

There have been multiple reviews that evidence systemic racism within the health services area. This plays out across the whole of government and therefore the whole of society.

The absolute failure of the Government over several decades in regard to ensuring Māori achieve an equality of access and then outcome is best evidenced by the health portfolio. Health as with welfare, education, justice and housing is a mirror image of the degrading way in which Māori are treated.

Tinkering with systems across the whole of government will not achieve any positive outcome because doing the same thing, gets the same result.

As with all our policy releases, we speak our liberated truth in the land of our ancestors.

Te Pāti Māori will:

- ***Increase funding for the Māori Health Authority / Te Aka Whai Ora***
- ***Primary Care will be free for all Whānau earning less than \$60,000***
- ***Dental Care will be free for all Whānau earning less than \$60,000***
- ***The Delivery of Medication to the Whānau Whare is free for all Whānau earning less than \$60,000***
- ***Implement a Māori Health Card - Whānau in Control of the Health Services They Need***
- ***Invest \$1 billion per annum in Health Workforce Development***
- ***Accelerate and Protect Mātauranga Māori Models of Health***
- ***Establish a comprehensive Kaupapa Māori Mental Health Service - Our Mental Wellbeing comes first***
- ***Drop Māori Cancer Screening By 10 years ~ Ensuring We Get an Equal Right to Preventative Services***
- ***Increase funding for PHARMAC***
- ***Establish a Māori Accident Compensation Authority ~ Māori In Control of The ACC Spend for Māori***

Solutions

Te Pāti Māori will:

Increase funding for the Māori Health Authority / Te Aka Whai Ora

- 25% of all Health funding to be transferred to and administer by the Māori Health Authority / Te Aka Whai Ora.
- There has been a significant under-investment in Māori Health resulting in Māori dying on average 10 years earlier than non-Māori. This is unacceptable.
- The health system has failed Māori and we need to move to a To Māori, by Māori, for Māori approach. The Covid-19 vaccination approach is very a good example of how Māori pivoted to delivered health services to Māori and non-Māori better than any other organisation. Māori Providers administered over 1 million Covid vaccines to New Zealanders.
- Whānau Ora is the key to improving Māori health and well-being (as evidenced in multiple reports) and health funding should be part of a cross sectorial investment approach.

Primary Care will be free for all Whānau earning less than \$60,000

- The cost of Kai has increased. The cost of petrol has increased. The cost of rent / mortgages has increased. Whānau have no money left to pay for basic healthcare.
- Our hospital services and ambulances are not coping. We need to invest more in preventative care and primary care to take the pressure off the secondary care system.
- This policy will support over 3 million people in Aotearoa have access to free primary healthcare.

Dental Care will be free for all Whānau earning less than \$60,000

- Whānau struggled to afford dental care prior to the cost-of-living crisis. With the increases in the cost of Kai, petrol, rent, mortgages have meant this is now even more unaffordable. Oral health is a significant health issue in Aotearoa, particularly for Māori.
- This policy will support over 3 million people in Aotearoa have access to free dental care.

The Delivery of Medication to the Whānau Whare is free for all Whānau earning less than \$60,000

- Access to medications is a significant challenge for several Whānau.
- We will establish a distribution system that delivers medication to the Whānau.

- This policy will support over 3 million people in Aotearoa have access to free dental care.

Implement a Māori Health Card - Whānau in Control of the Health Services They Need

- Issued to all Māori linked to their NHI number and ensures that health funding follows the Māori patient and not a Hospital, a Primary Healthcare Organisation, or a General Practice. Health must be about the patient, and funding must follow that patient's preferences. We can no longer have our money spent for us on a service that fails us.

Invest \$1 billion per annum in Health Workforce Development

- Aotearoa has a health workforce crisis. We are not training enough medical practitioners and we are losing several of our medical workforce to retirement or to Australia. We will not be able to train our way out of this workforce crisis without significant investment.
- There needs to be significant investment in training more doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners and a greater emphasis on recruiting medical professionals from offshore.
- There needs to be investment in the social services workforce recognising that several clinical tasks can be done by non-clinical staff. The Covid vaccination process is a good example.

Accelerate and Protect Mātauranga Māori Models of Health

- Te Tiriti o Waitangi makes prioritising Māori health a priority. Mātauranga Māori benefits all of Aotearoa, our taonga including rongoa and kai rongoa must be preserved and protected.

Establish a comprehensive Kaupapa Māori Mental Health Service - Our Mental Wellbeing comes first

- This service will be funded to the order of \$500 million per annum and this will be transferred from the existing mental health service funding. This will cover off mental health, alcohol and addictions. It will focus on dropping one of the highest suicide rates amongst any people in the world.
- Provide free mental health services in every community, so whānau can get the tautoko and awhi they need, as they need it.
- Adopt & deliver recommendations from He Tapu te Oranga o ia Tangata suicide prevention strategy

Drop Māori Cancer Screening By 10 years ~ Ensuring We Get an Equal Right to Preventative Services

- Effective immediately to ensure Māori get an equal right to preventative services because we present 10 years earlier in difficulty. This policy alone shows how deeply ingrained racism is by knowingly assigning hundreds of Māori to a premature cancer death. How? By denying us access to earlier screening.
- Ensure timely diagnosis and effective support services for Taonga Takiwātanga, Aroreretini, Tīpaopao: whānau and other forms of neurodivergence.

Increase funding for PHARMAC

- Increase funding for PHARMAC so that it can invest in new medicines and health care devices to enhance treatment outcomes and quality of life for all our whānau.

Establish a Māori Accident Compensation Authority ~ Māori In Control of The ACC Spend for Māori

- 25% of all current ACC funding to be transferred to and administer by the Māori Accident Compensation Authority who will work closely with the Māori Health Authority / Te Aka Whai Ora.