

Regional Public Health

HAUORA Ā IWĪ KI TE ŪPOKO ● O TE IKA A MĀUI
Better health for the greater Wellington region

Refugee Health Study Day

Regional Public Health

13th May 2021

Who are we?

- Public Health Nurses (Disease control and Well Homes Team) – 1 Clinical Nurse Specialist, 7 Public Health Nurses.
- Communicable disease notifications
- Home visit for all quota refugees/family reunification/asylum seekers
- Health promotion and education for services and communities involved in refugee health
- Advocacy and support for primary care



Refugee Health and Resettlement

- Health can be relatively poor on arrival and resettlement itself can have a huge impact on health.
- Former refugees may be experiencing ongoing grief and shock with loss of family, friends, new culture/loss of old culture, and community.
- Settling in a new country will require huge adjustments for individuals and families.

Refugee Transition Visit

- Medical notes received from MRRC and PHN sends all referrals to appropriate specialty service to be triaged.
- Some families will only need a one off visit from the PHN and others will need to be revisited, particularly those who have children with LTBI
- PHN will provide each person with information about the New Zealand health system and assist with transfer to primary care in the area of settlement.
- PHN will discuss any health matters identified at MRRC and address any health concerns that may have arisen since arriving to Wellington

Communicable Diseases

- Active TB – screened (CXR) prior to entry into NZ
- Latent TB - sleeping /Inactive
- HIV/Hepatitis B - blood borne virus.

Health Promotion Activities

- Advice and clinical support for practices taking on refugees
- Organization of refugee health focused workshops
- Annual Refugee Primary Health Care Study Day
- Twice yearly Interpreting workshop in conjunction with Interpreting NZ
- Support Red Cross with orientation program for new refugee intakes