



Whanganui Regional
Health Network

JOB DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Physiotherapist – Manaaki Hauora Team
Location:	Whanganui Regional Health Network (WRHN), Whanganui rohe
Contract Type:	Permanent or Fixed-Term (TBC)
Hours:	Flexible hours can be afforded for right applicant
Delegations:	No financial delegations unless otherwise negotiated
Responsible To:	Clinical Director, WRHN

Relationships with:

Internal

- WRHN employees and leadership
- Long-Term Conditions team
- Equity Komiti
- WRHN Pasifika Health Support
- Digital and Data Teams
- Clinical Governance

External

- Manaaki Hauora general practice teams (urban and rural)
- Community physiotherapy and pharmacy providers
- Iwi and Hauora Māori providers
- Interdisciplinary general practice teams
- Whānau from local communities
- Hospital specialist services
- Whanganui Accident & Medical (WAM)

Overview

Whanganui Regional Health Network is committed to improving health outcomes for all people in our rohe, with a strong focus on equity, integration, and whānau-centred care. We work in close partnership with general practice, Māori health providers, hospital services, and community agencies to redesign the system in ways that better serve whānau.

Whānau have told us they want health and social systems that are seamless and responsive. We are listening — and acting. This role plays a key part in delivering on that aspiration by working alongside communities to understand their lived experiences and co-designing physiotherapy solutions that reflect what matters most to them.

Position Overview

This role is embedded within the Whanganui Manaaki Hauora Team and plays a critical part in delivering equity-focused, whānau-centred care. As part of an interdisciplinary team, the physiotherapist will provide direct care, support care closer to home in primary and community services and contribute to service co-design and improvement efforts.

The physiotherapist will work across community, iwi, and general practice settings to deliver early intervention, rehabilitation, and supported discharge services for people and whānau at greatest risk of poor health outcomes. This includes both clinical and practice-level contributions that support integrated, responsive care models.

Key Responsibilities

- Deliver physiotherapy assessment, diagnosis, and treatment within the Manaaki Hauora interdisciplinary team
- Provide early and proactive interventions that promote care closer to home in primary and community
- Contribute to the design and implementation of integrated models of care across primary, iwi, and community settings
- Work with general practices, community physiotherapists, and other providers to streamline services and remove access barriers
- Facilitate group-based and individual rehabilitation programmes with a focus on self-management, mobility, and quality of life
- Support delegation to non-regulated roles such as kaiāwhina where appropriate, to simplify care and empower whānau
- Embed equity and cultural safety in all care planning and service co-design activities
- Actively engage in Manaaki Hauora development, including interdisciplinary team processes, IT enablers, and outcome measurement
- Advocate for and represent the physiotherapy profession within the Manaaki Hauora model

Qualifications & Experience

Essential:

- Bachelor's degree in Physiotherapy
- Relevant Postgraduate Qualifications
- Clinical competence in managing acute and chronic conditions
- Demonstrated leadership (e.g. supervising students or mentoring peers)
- Experience working in cross-disciplinary environments
- High standard of interpersonal and professional communication
- Demonstrated cultural confidence and commitment to equity
- Understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and ability to practice in a culturally safe manner
- Ability to think strategically and co-design with communities

Desirable:

- Experience working with Māori, Pasifika, and low-income communities
- Familiarity with patient management systems (e.g. Medtech or similar software)
- Strong skills in digital tools that support team collaboration and patient care
- Ability to measure system impact and track equity outcomes
- Experience with group therapy, community education, and rehabilitation programme delivery

Personal Attributes

- Whānau-centred and equity-focused in all aspects of work
- Skilled in relationship-building, especially across disciplines and with Māori and Pasifika providers
- Adaptable, innovative, and comfortable in changing environments
- Natural problem solver with a focus on solutions that reduce complexity for whānau
- Strong collaborator with a commitment to collective impact
- Motivated to improve access and system responsiveness through practical, co-designed solutions
- Willingness to learn and grow as a Physiotherapist, keeping up to date with ongoing evidence informed practice and professional development

Cultural Competencies

- Applies Te Tiriti o Waitangi in clinical and co-design settings
 - Participates in WRHN's cultural competency training and actively demonstrates its application
 - Upholds tikanga Māori in professional environments
 - Recognises how colonisation, systemic racism, and power imbalances influence care and takes steps to address these issues
 - Promotes culturally safe care, particularly for Māori and Pasifika whānau
 - Supports the inclusion of the Kaiāwhina workforce and other cultural navigators as part of a comprehensive team model
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Health & Safety

- Understands and complies with WRHN Health and Safety policies
 - Identifies and reports risks, incidents, and hazards within required timeframes
 - Models and promotes safe practice for self and others
 - Participates in emergency preparedness and health and safety training as required
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Other Information

This position description is a living document and may evolve as the role develops or WRHN's strategic direction shifts. The physiotherapist may be required to undertake other duties as reasonably agreed, in line with the overall purpose and scope of the role.