

PRESS RELEASE

Kia ora koutou,

Te Whatu Ora in Whanganui launches Maternity and Dental Health collaboration

Te Whatu Ora in Whanganui has launched an initiative bringing together maternity care and dental health for the well-being of expectant mothers. Good oral health is closely linked to overall well-being for mother and baby.

As part of a commitment to comprehensive healthcare, the service offers a free full dental hygiene check-up to hapū/pregnant people in the second trimester (weeks 13 – 28) of their pregnancy.

Scheduling this free check-up is simple and convenient, with options of being seen at either the hospital dental clinic or at the school dental bus. An appointment can be organised by speaking with your midwife or Lead Maternity Carer (LMC) – as early as possible in the pregnancy.

“We recognise the connections of different aspects of health, especially during pregnancy,” said Lucy Pettit, Te Whatu Ora in Whanganui, Director of Midwifery Maternal, Child and Youth. “This initiative reflects our dedication to providing comprehensive care that addresses the needs of expectant mothers. By collaborating with our Oral Health department, we are excited to offer this new service to our community.”

If the hygiene check-up shows a need for dental care, our hygienist can advise about options and refer on to a dentist. Pregnant people under the age of 18 can access free dental care while those over 18 can seek support from WINZ.

To schedule a dental health check-up, please contact your midwife or LMC.

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Pictured are: Rachel Taylor – MQSP Co-Ordinator Midwifery Services, Juan Restrepo - Service Manager Oral Health, and Helen Wood - Clinical Director Oral Health



For further information please email: Communications@wdhb.org.nz

Ngā mihi,

Communications & Engagement

Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand
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