

The Future for Māori Health

- delivering excellence for Māori

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**“Whaihanga Ora -
Building Tomorrow’s Health Services”**

22 August 2008

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The Challenge

Imagine ourselves in 2028,

- now - describe the health service that is delivering excellence for Māori

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The Challenge

Imagine ourselves in 2028,

- visioning 20 years forward
(a little bit of nostalgia)

- 2 scenarios

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The Challenge

Imagine ourselves in 2028,

- two scenarios

- i) more of the same – struggle for piecemeal improvements

- ii) radical, comprehensive innovation

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More of the Same

Comprehensive inequities in:

- the distribution of the determinants of health
- access to & thru' health services
- the quality of care received
- health outcomes (quality & quantity)
- representation in the health workforce

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More of the Same

Is problematic

- Equity & Social Justice
- Even less fit for purpose
- Increasing pressures, demographic, technical
- Waste of human potential

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For Māori
a Health Service of Excellence
Delivers
EQUITY

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Most Important Messages

Improving Māori Health is not a Threat

Both the journey & the destination
will be important

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Brave New World

(radical comprehensive innovation)

Acknowledge the magnitude of the challenge

- Inequalities feature internationally
- Across all sectors
- Maintained by complex web of interactions
- Maintained by a level of public acceptance
- Maintains privilege and power
- Health sector & workers are implicated

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Radical Comprehensive Innovation

Requires that:

we correct inequalities in the distribution of the determinants of health.

Can't underestimate the magnitude of the task

But role of health in housing demonstrated, and developing in literacy and corrections.

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Radical Comprehensive Innovation

Requires that:

we correct inequalities in the distribution of the determinants of health.

It will always seem too hard unless we begin

Change the discourse, support an initiator

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Radical Comprehensive Innovation

Requires that:

**We organise health services so that Māori
have equitable access to & thru' care**

Equitable access not necessarily equal access

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Radical Comprehensive Innovation

Requires that:

**We organise health services so that Māori
have equitable access to & thru' care**

Show Leadership – begin the change

Put Māori First

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Radical Comprehensive Innovation

Requires that:

**We provide quality health services staffed
by culturally safe health professionals**

Quality & Safety – not just about error and
systems but also about humanity & bias

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Radical Comprehensive Innovation

Requires that:

**We provide quality health services staffed
by culturally safe health professionals**

Culturally Safe – ensuring patients are safe from
the powerful culture of health professionals

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Radical Comprehensive Innovation

Requires that:

Services are staffed by an appropriate proportion of Māori health professionals.

This cannot happen without engagement down into the primary & secondary school system.

This cannot happen unless we intervene now and join those demanding change.

Māori health is everyone's priority

Barriers to Improving Māori Health

1. Public Immunity – not new, not news
2. Poorly Understood Evidence – easy to ignore
3. Unclear Data – easy to mislead
4. Discourses of Denial – part of privilege
5. Demand for Simplicity – 30sec sound bites
6. Inhumanity – individualism & greed
7. Too Scared to Challenge – too hard to change

Māori health is everyone's priority

Barriers/**Actions** to Improving Māori Health

1. Public Immunity - **Know & Acknowledge**
2. Poorly Understood Evidence - **Be Informed**
3. Unclear Data - **Promote Rights**
4. Discourses of Denial – **Change Status Quo**
5. Demand for Simplicity – **Right to Complexity**
6. Inhumanity – **Show Compassion**
7. Too Scared to Challenge – **Commit to Quality**

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