

20 August 2025

Kia ora koutou,

Further nurses' strikes at Health NZ hospitals and services planned for 2 & 4 September 2025

New Zealand Nurses Organisation (NZNO) members employed by Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora are planning to strike again on Tuesday 2nd and Thursday 4th of September 2025, from 7am-11pm each day. The strikes are planned to take place at all Health NZ hospitals and services where NZNO members are employed.

Should the strikes go ahead, patient safety will remain our priority and we are working with NZNO to agree life preserving services (LPS) support for the strike periods.

To keep patients safe during the strikes, HNZ will need to minimise the number of inpatients in our facility as much as we can safely do so and limit the volume of acute assessments and admissions during the strike periods.

To help us manage during the strikes as safely as possible we would really appreciate your support and cooperation during this time. In terms of settings during the strike period.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please continue to refer new patients in accordance with the current referral pathways. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some patients may contact you for advice. If you need further information from our teams, please contact your PFO relationship lead for clarification or advice. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any patient needing urgent medical care should still present to hospital during the strike periods. We will have senior doctors available to assess patients needing life preserving services. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• However, patients with lesser acuity illnesses or injuries, where a delayed assessment by up to 24 hours is unlikely to impact negatively, should avoid attending the hospital until the strikes are complete – keeping emergency departments for emergencies as much as possible. |

By assisting in these ways, you will help us keep patients safe and maintain as much ongoing service delivery as we safely can.

We value the hard work and dedication of our staff and remain focused on reaching a settlement with NZNO to avoid any disruption to patients and the wider health system.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Agnew', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mike Agnew (he/him/ia)
Ngāti Porou
Group Manager/Acting Business Continuity Manager
Office of the Regional Director, Te Manawa Taki