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**27 August 2018**

Achieving health equity for our Māori communities

Health equity for Māori communities remains at the heart of a Waitemata DHB recruitment drive for nurses.

Around 9.2 per cent of the 630,000 people living within Waitemata are Māori and the DHB wants to ensure its nursing workforce better represents the community.

Approximately 6.7% of DHB staff are Māori and the number of Maori nurses working for Waitemata has doubled in the last three years. It is hoped the number will rise further as up to 50 positions become available to applicants at all levels – both as a result of staff turnover and new positions being created.

Nursing leadership and professional roles will be available in all specialty areas including community outreach, diabetes, cardiology and health of the older person.

"We are committed to eliminating inequities wherever they exist, particularly in relation to Māori," says CEO Dr Dale Bramley, who is of Ngāpuhi descent. "Having a workforce that better reflects the community we serve plays its part by increasing engagement with people who might otherwise be reluctant to seek help when they need it."

"We have an organisational promise to deliver best care to everyone. I encourage all Māori nurses looking for new work opportunities to help us do just that by joining our hard-working and dedicated team of health professionals.

Please email Dianna MacGregor, Clinical Nurse Director, Māori Health ([Dianna.macgregor@waitematadhb.govt.nz](mailto:Dianna.macgregor@waitematadhb.govt.nz)) if you are interested in a nursing role with the DHB.

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**For further information, contact:**

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