



3 December 2021

Waitematā DHB reaches 90% fully vaccinated

Waitematā has today become the third district health board in the country to achieve the goal of double-vaccinating 90 per cent of its eligible population against COVID-19.

CEO Dr Dale Bramley said this was a significant achievement as the Waitematā district is by far the biggest DHB by population in the country, meaning more vaccinations needed to be performed in order to reach 90 per cent.

“We have an eligible population of just over 526,000 people and to have more than 471,000 of these fully vaccinated is a huge effort,” he said.

“I would like to thank all those who have played their part in making this happen – those working in our DHB-run vaccination centres and our army of community partners, which includes Māori and Pacific providers Te Whānau o Waipareira and The Fono respectively, General Practice, pharmacies and others who have contributed to this shared achievement.

“As a result of this work over several months, we are heading into the new traffic light system and summer with the best protection possible – a high level of community vaccination.”

Dr Bramley said the DHB would continue to strongly promote vaccination - driving home the benefits for the community.

A strong focus on lifting Maori and Pacific coverage rates across Waitematā also continues - Pacific coverage of 90% for the first dose was achieved on 29 November and Maori coverage for first dose has now reached 87%.

“It is vital we reach very high coverage for people in our Maori and Pacific communities who have experienced a considerable impact from COVID-19 to date,” Dr Bramley said. “We will continue our efforts with our partners until the same high coverage for Maori and Pacific occurs.

“I also want to thank the other metropolitan Auckland DHBs for their efforts on the vaccination front. We are all united in our efforts to achieve the highest-possible vaccination rate across the greater region. Vaccination is our number one defence against COVID-19 and I encourage anyone who is not yet fully vaccinated to do so as soon as possible.”

Ends.

For further information, contact:

Waitematā DHB Media Line, ph. 4871276