

TE TIKANGA

Engaging with whānau Māori affected by cancer: a kaupapa Māori approach



Note: Te Aho o Te Kahu has published three documents on the hui series:

- 1. Rongohia Te Reo, Whatua He Oranga, which shares the experiences, insights, and aspirations of thousands of whānau Māori affected by cancer.
- 2. Te Tikanga (this report) summarises our kaupapa Māori approach to the hui series
- 3. He Urupare outlines some of the work Te Aho o Te Kahu and other health agencies are doing that responds to, or aligns with, whānau insights.

These are all available in both English and te reo on our website, **teaho.govt.nz**.

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He kupu whakamihi Acknowledgements

Te Aho o Te Kahu sincerely thanks the many individuals who contributed to the hui series including:

- · patients and whānau who attended and shared their stories and insights with us
- · local organisations and mana whenua that hosted each hui
- large numbers of local and national health organisations that collaborated in the planning and delivery of the hui series
- many kaumatua and kuia who joined us to tautoko both the kaupapa and the whānau in attendance at each hui
- · kapa haka rōpū, singers and musicians who supported and entertained whānau during the hui
- numerous health professionals who chose to attend the hui and hear directly from patients and whānau.



Ngā ihirangi Table of contents

- O1 Acknowledgements He kupu whakamihi
- 03 Executive Summary He whakarāpopoto matua
- 06 National cancer hui series 2021 Te rārangi hui mate pukupuku ā-motu 2021
- 10 A kaupapa Māori approach
- 17 Our partners
- 20 Hui structure
- 21 Insight gathering
- 22 Analysis and report writing
- 23 Final reflections
- 25 References



He whakarāpopoto matua Executive summary

In 2021, Te Aho o Te Kahu was grateful to meet with more than 2,500 whānau Māori affected by cancer, via 13 hui held across the motu. The aim of the hui series was simple - to hear the stories and experiences of whānau Māori, so that their voices could help shape the future direction of cancer care in Aotearoa. The hui series also provided an opportunity for our newlyformed agency to build relationships with Māori cancer patients and whānau, along with the many other Māori organisations and individuals involved in cancer care.

The hui series took place from February to July 2021 and was supported by mana whenua and representatives from local cancer, health and community organisations. A deliberate choice was made to use a kaupapa Māori approach through all stages of the hui planning and delivery process. Data analysis and sense checking with Māori working in the wider cancer sector followed. Three reports were then collaboratively drafted by Māori staff from Te Aho o Te Kahu and then peer reviewed by selected members of Hei Āhuru Mōwai (National Māori Cancer Leadership Aotearoa) and He Ara Tangata (our consumer advisory group).

The suite of three reports includes:

 Rongohia Te Reo, Whatua He Oranga: The voices of whānau Māori affected by cancer, which shares the experiences, insights, and aspirations of thousands of whānau Māori affected by cancer.

- Te Tikanga: A kaupapa Māori approach to engaging with whānau Māori affected by cancer (this document) outlines the kaupapa Māori principles that we used to design and deliver the hui series.
- 3. He Urupare: Responding to the experiences of whānau Māori affected by cancer describes some of the work Te Aho o Te Kahu and other health agencies are doing that responds to, or aligns with, whānau insights.

All three reports are available on our website, **teaho.govt.nz.**

Te Aho o Te Kahu profoundly thanks the many individuals and organisations who contributed to the hui series. In particular we acknowledge all the patients and whānau who attended and shared their stories and insights with us. Although it was painful at times for whānau, they willingly shared their thoughts, insights, experiences, and aspirations. These taonga are meaningful insights that will help us to affect change and address Māori cancer inequities. We also sincerely thank the local organisations and mana whenua that created safe and welcoming spaces for whānau to share these taonga with us.

These reports are being published at a time of great change within the health sector. We look forward to working with Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand, Te Aka Whai Ora - Māori Health Authority, and all other heath organisations to ensure the voices of whānau are embedded in our work to create fewer cancers, better survival, and equity for all.







Te rārangi hui mate pukupuku ā-motu 2021 National cancer hui series 2021

The idea of a national hui series focused on the voices of whānau affected by cancer was envisioned in 2020, when Te Aho o Te Kahu was less than six months old. A deliberate choice was made to use a kaupapa Māori approach through all stages of the hui planning process. As an indigenous methodology, kaupapa Māori is premised on the foundations of mātauranga encompassing Māori knowledge, worldviews, perspectives and practices (Haitana et al., 2020). In this regard, kaupapa Māori not only privileges and normalises Māori knowledge (Pihama et al., 2002), but is also a 'by Māori for Māori' approach which can be applied in a range of settings (Tuhiwai Smith, 2021).

Te Aho o Te Kahu leant heavily on the processes and tikanga of a similar hui series undertaken by the Central Cancer Network in 2019, prior to the establishment of the national agency. That hui series was grounded in the principles of kaupapa Māori as seen in Figure 2, and produced a range of reports (Beazley, 2019; Beazley et al., 2020; Koia et al., 2020) including a kaupapa Māori evaluation (Beazley, 2020).



Figure 1. Kaupapa Māori principles embedded in Central Cancer Network hui series 2019

The aim of the 2021 national hui series was for Te Aho o Te Kahu to engage with whānau Māori across the motu, so that their voices could help shape the future direction of cancer care in Aotearoa. The hui series also provided an opportunity for the newly-formed agency to build relationships with Māori cancer patients and whānau, along with the many other Māori organisations and individuals involved in cancer care. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Te Aho o Te Kahu was able to connect with over 2,500 Māori patients and whānau through the hui series.



Aim

Hear the voice of whānau Māori



Purpose

Ensure that Māori voices shape the future direction of cancer care in Aotearoa



Outcome

13 public hui, underpinned by more than a hundred planning and analysis engagements

Figure 2: Māori Cancer Community Hui series 2021





Figure 3: Hui locations



A KAUPAPA MĀORI APPROACH

Significant planning, collaboration and coordination took place to deliver the hui series. This was made possible through the efforts of many local organisations and mana whenua representatives across the country (see pages 18-19 for more details). The process we followed is detailed below and summarised in graphic form on pages 15-16.

To begin with, Te Aho o Te Kahu connected with a range of Māori working in the wider cancer sector. Formal discussions about the proposed hui series took place with Hei Āhuru Mōwai (Māori Cancer Leadership Aotearoa) and with Te Tumuwhakarae (the rōpū of General Managers Māori from each of the then-District Health Boards) to determine the level of support for the kaupapa. Advice was also sought regarding the agency's approach to engaging Māori cancer stakeholders in each of the regions.

These discussions confirmed that the cancer inequities experienced by Māori were also of concern to both Hei Āhuru Mōwai and Te Tumuwhakarae, and that they were interested in being consulted with, supportive of, and being involved in the hui series. After many discussions, it was decided that 15 hui would be held across the motu (see next page). Two hui were later cancelled due to COVID-related issues, but 13 hui went ahead as scheduled.

The location of each hui was confirmed based on the nature of the regions (Lawton et al., 2013) and the existing relationships between Te Aho o Te Kahu Māori staff and Māori cancer stakeholders. This would enable a diverse range of local cancer experiences to be captured.



Hui dates (2021)	Rohe	Venue
12 February	Taranaki	Devon Hotel
25 February	Hawkes Bay	Nuhaka Marae
17 March	Wellington	Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, Porirua
14 April	Whakatāne	War Memorial Hall
21 April	Horowhenua	Levin Events Centre
28 April	Rotorua	Te Puia Springs
4 May	Te Tairāwhiti	Gisborne Cosmopolitan Club
19 May	Northland	Latter Day Saints Chapel, Kaikohe
27 May	Auckland	Te Mahurehure Marae, Point Chevalier
12 June	Blenheim	Rangitāne Cultural Centre
17 June	Whanganui	Cancelled due to COVID
26 June	Christchurch	Ngā Hau e Whā Marae
17 July	Invercargill	Murihiku Marae
23 July	Waikato	Te Wānanga o Aotearoa, Hamilton
29 July	Manukau City	Cancelled due to COVID

Table 1. Hui series timetable



Māori Cancer **Community Hui**

Rängitane Cultural Centre, 1 Fell Street, Grovetown, Blenheim Saturday 12 June 2021



Hear the voice of Whānau Māori!

Te Aho o Te Kahu is committed to working together with Māori Leaders, Stakeholders and Communities to improve outcomes! Come have your say and help us design kaupapa Māori cancer solutions.

Kai, kõrero, kapa haka, mirimiri, rongoā, whānau workshops.

Registration: 8.30 am | Mihi Whakatau: 9.10am | Poroporoaki: 3:30pm

RSVP attendance & transport requ Name: Te Hauora o Ngāti Rārua

Email: hauora@thonr.org

Transport available from Nelson and Blenheim





HE PĀNUI E te iwi, nau mai, haere mai ki tēnei hui e pā ana ki te mate pukupuku



Cosmopolitan Club 190 Derby Street, Gisborne Tuesday 4 May 2021 9.30am - 1.30pm Hear the voice of Whānau

Te Aho o Te Kahu is committed to working together with Māori Leaders, Stakeholders and Communities to improve cancer

Māori!

Come and körero with us and join the workshops to design Kaupapa Māori cancer solutions and have your

Whakawhānaungatanga, Kai, Kōrero, Waiata, Karakia,

Health information, Kapahaka and Kotahitanga!

Programme will be available 27 April For enquiries contact Turanga Health or email

lydia.rickard@teaho.govt.nz



In each hui location, a local rōpū was established to plan and manage the event. These rōpū included mana whenua, along with Māori working in the wider cancer and health sectors. Te Aho o Te Kahu provided each rōpū with a budget to finance each hui. Each rōpū was supported by a small Project Team including at least one Māori staff member from Te Aho o Te Kahu.

Other Māori staff from Te Aho o Te Kahu were involved in the hui planning process in various ways. Some created content that would be used at the hui series, while others provided national leadership and kaumātua support. The presence and availability of kaumātua and the demonstration of tuakana/teina relationships provided a number of benefits, which were apparent particularly when cultural counsel and leadership was needed to direct the team focus around the organisation and planning for each hui.

The kaupapa Māori approach allowed the team to enact appropriate tikanga and kawa within differing local contexts which were represented in processes of pōwhiri and in adhering to the tikanga and kawa of the hau kainga and Māori cancer stakeholders. These processes allowed various and diverse cultural strengths of the Project Team and local rōpū to be observed through the different stages of the cancer hui planning activities. One of the strengths of having

Māori team members drive Māori engagement in regional and local contexts was their knowledge and understanding of local Māori communities through established relationships and networks within their local community contexts.

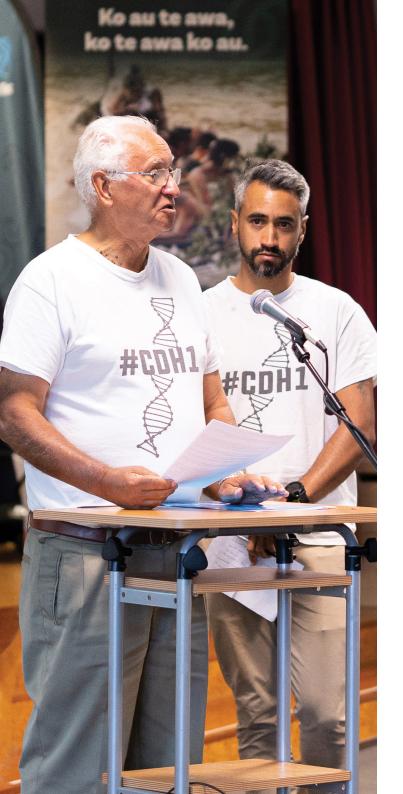
From this perspective, the importance of recognising and acknowledging prevailing Māori relationships and connections to iwi, hapū and whānau should not be underestimated. The strength of existing Māori relationships was used to assess the feasibility of holding each hui with local Māori cancer stakeholders. This allowed the Project Team and rōpū members to utilise their networks to connect with whānau with direct cancer experiences, as well as Māori health providers working in the community and hospital-based cancer services.

This approach recognises the value of collaborative partnerships because it brought together and combined local knowledge of whānau to the local context and permitted components of local support to be included in decision-making processes. In regions where Māori leadership forums already existed, these groups were responsible for providing guidance for regional Māori engagement. Regular progress meetings were held to highlight any challenges and risks associated with the hui planning.

Where there were no regional Māori leadership bodies already established, a member (or members) of the Project Team initiated regional connections with local Māori cancer stakeholders, generally via members of Te Tumu Whakarae. This led to identifying Māori cancer stakeholders interested in supporting each hui, who were then invited to join each hui planning rōpū. The goal for each planning rōpū was to ensure that each cancer hui delivered locally and culturally appropriate content, and to provide input and integrate local perspectives into the hui programme.

Non-Māori staff from Te Aho o Te Kahu and Māori consultancy contractors were brought into the local planning rōpū to lend their expertise where appropriate. Each rōpū confirmed a date and venue for the local hui, set the programme, organised local speakers and managed promotion and invitations. A standard Te Aho o Te Kahu template was used to help organise the hui programme (see pages 13-14), but was modified to suit each location. To reduce whānau barriers to attending the cancer hui series, in some regions local Māori cancer stakeholders elected to hold their hui on the weekend so that whānau would not be impacted by their working commitments.





When?	What?		
8:30am	Whānau gather (Transport buses and vans for community)		
9:00am	Pōwhiri (Welcome)		
9:30am	Morning tea Whakawhanaungatanga ar	nd Kapahaka Entertainment	
10:00am	Opening speaker: Te Aho O Te Kahu • Set the Scene, Present Kaupapa of the day		
10:30am	Local patient and/or whānau speaker		
10:45am	Session 1: Primary care	Session 2: Equity	Session 3: Māori public health
11:45am	Session 4: Mātauranga Māori	Session 5: Whānau cancer journey	Session 6: Māori cancer leadership
12:45pm	Lunch Whakawhanaungatanga ar	nd Kapahaka Entertainment	

Table 2. Hui agenda template

When?	What?	
1:45pm	Provider Stall Engagement Provider Stalls Health promotion Screening delivery Treatment info— Healthy eating MEDOC, RADOC etc Sports and exercise Hospice and pal care Infections Skin cancer Psycho social services Worksafe Wairuatanga services	
	 Early detection Primary care enrolment Raranga Free health checks Whānau Ora 	
3:45pm	Poroaki (Farewell)	
4:00pm	Day Ends (Transport Buses And Vans For Community)	

Although there was a strong preference to have hui on a marae, an appropriate venue was determined by the local people of that rohe. Alternative sites were also identified in anticipation of large numbers of people attending the hui. Hui venues comprised churches, community halls, event centres as well as the places of Māori provider organisations. Decisions surrounding the kai menu and koha for hui contributors were negotiated in a similar fashion.

High level discussions

Reflecting the local rohe

Hui held

- Formal discussions about the proposed hui series took place with Hei Āhuru Mōwai and with Te Tumuwhakarae (the General Managers Māori from each of the then-District Health Boards) to determine the level of support for the kaupapa.
- After many discussions, it was decided that 15 Māori cancer community hui would be held across the motu (two had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 related issues).

- Local ropū were established in each hui location to plan and manage the event.
 These ropū included mana whenua, along with Māori working in the wider cancer and health sectors. Te Aho o Te Kahu provided ropū with a budget to finance each hui.
- A template for the hui agenda was customised to suit each location.
 Invitations and signage used local imagery, including maunga, awa, moana, mahinga kai, kapa haka and whakatauki.

- Local community health providers and whānau Māori including weavers and other artists were invited to set up stalls in each venue.
- Each hui opened with pōwhiri or mihi whakatau, before participants heard from guest speakers and participated in a range of workshops.

Figure 4. Summary of hui planning and delivery process



Post-hui analysis

- The workshops focused on gathering whānau insights on specific cancer topics: primary care, equity, Māori public health, Māori cancer leadership, early detection, mātauranga Māori and the whānau cancer journey.
- The majority of the workshops were facilitated by staff from Te Aho o Te Kahu, with Hāpai Te Hauora and Hei Āhuru Mōwai also facilitating some workshops.

All data from the workshop sessions
were analysed by staff to identify
strong themes. These themes were then
categorised into relevant sections of
the New Zealand Cancer Action Plan
2019-2029, before a review by the wider
project team and a small group of Māori
working in the wider cancer sector. The
project team then collaborated to draft
and review three reports, with all content
peer reviewed by Hei Āhuru Mōwai and
He Ara Tangata.



The planning and delivery of the hui series incorporated key principles and aspects of kaupapa Māori including:

whakawhanaungatanga tikanga kawa hau kainga manaakitanga rangapū mahi tahi whakapapa kõrero



OUR PARTNERS

The hui series would not have been possible without the support and partnership of many organisations. Two leading Māori organisations joined us for the full hui series: Hei Āhuru Mōwai and Hāpai Te Hauora.



Hei Āhuru Mōwai Māori Cancer Leadership Aotearoa

Established in 2012, their vision is for whānau to have control over their cancer journey and receive equitable, mana-enhancing and mauri-restoring services for all. The membership of Hei Āhuru Mōwai includes specialists in oncology, haematology, kaupapa Māori research, mātauranga Māori research, Māori health management, bio-medical cancer research, wairua healing, gastroenterology, health promotion and kaupapa Māori supportive care.

During the hui series, Hei Āhuru Mōwai worked with whānau to understand their aspirations for Māori cancer leadership.



Hāpai Te Hauora

Hāpai Te Hauora has been a leader in Māori public health for more than 20 years. Initially created to support Māori public health across the greater Auckland region, the organisation now also works across the motu in key areas of public health including tobacco control, gambling harm prevention, Sudden unexpected death in infancy (SUDI) prevention and workforce development.

Hāpai Te Hauora attended the hui series to discuss Māori public health leadership with cancer patients and whānau.

Within each region, we worked with mana whenua and local health and support services to create each hui. We are grateful to the many organisations who joined us for this kaupapa, including:

- Arai te Uru Whare Hauora
- Aratika Cancer Trust
- · Arohanui Hospice
- Auckland District Health Board*
- Bay of Plenty District Health Board*
- Bowel Cancer NZ
- Breast Cancer Foundation NZ
- Breastscreen Aotearoa
- Cancer Concern
- Cancer Society
- Canteen
- Canterbury District Health Board*
- Child Cancer Foundation
- Cranford Hospice
- · Dove Hospice
- Eastern Bay Primary Health Alliance
- Hawkes Bay District Health Board*
- He Waka Tapu
- Health Quality & Safety Commission
- Heart Foundation
- · Horowhenua District Council
- Hospice Mid-Northland
- Hospice Tairāwhiti

- Hospice Taranaki
- · Hospice Waikato
- · Kahukura Rongoā
- Kenzie's Gift
- · Korowai Aroha Health Centre
- Lakes District Health Board*
- Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand
- · Look Good Feel Better
- · Mahitahi Hauora
- · Maketu Health & Social Services
- Manaaki Ora
- Māori Women's Welfare League
- Mercy Hospice
- MidCentral District Health Board*
- · Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Social Development
- Muaūpoko Tribal Authority
- National Bowel Screening Programme
- Nationwide Health & Disability Advocacy Services
- Nelson Marlborough District Health Board*
- Ngā Kete Mātauranga Pounamu
- Ngā Rangatahi o Te Tauihu o te Waka o Māui

^{*}Now part of Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand



- Ngai Tuhoe
- · Ngaruahine Iwi Health Services
- Ngāti Kahungunu
- Ngāti Porou ki Waitaha Taurahere
- Ngāi Te Rangi Iwi
- Ngati Ruanui Healthcare
- Northable
- North Haven Hospice
- Nurse Maude
- · Ora Toa Health Services
- Ōraka Aparima
- Pani Balms
- Pinc & Steel
- Prostate Cancer Foundation NZ
- QE Health
- · Rauawaawa Charitable Trust
- · Raukawa Whānau Ora
- · Rotorua Breast Cancer Trust
- Rotorua Community Hospice

- ScreenSouth
- · #Smear Your Mea
- Southland District Health Board*
- St John
- Stroke Central New Zealand
- · Stroke Foundation
- Sweet Louise
- Tahu FM
- · Taranaki Disabilities Information Centre
- Taranaki District Health Board*
- Te Arawa Whānau Ora
- Te Awakairangi Health Network
- Te Hau Ora O Ngāpuhi
- Te Hauora o Ngāti Rārua
- Te Hiku Hauora
- Te Piki Oranga
- Te Pou Oranga O Whakatōhea
- · Te Puna Ora O Mataatua
- Te Roopū Hauora O Te Arawa

- Te Rūnanga a Rangitāne o Wairau
- Te Rūnanga o te Ngāti Rārua
- Te Tohu O Te Ora O Ngati Awa
- Te Waipounamu Māori Cancer Leadership Group
- Te Waka Huia a Manawatu Trust
- Te Wānanga o Aotearoa
- Te Whare Maire o Tapuwae Whānau Ora Wairoa
- · THINK Hauora
- Tu Tonu
- Tui Ora
- · Turanga Health
- · University of Otago
- Victoria University of Wellington
- Waikato District Health Board*
- Waipu Hauora
- Waitematā District Health Board*
- Well Women & Family
- · Whaioranga Trust
- · Whakawhiti Ora Pai



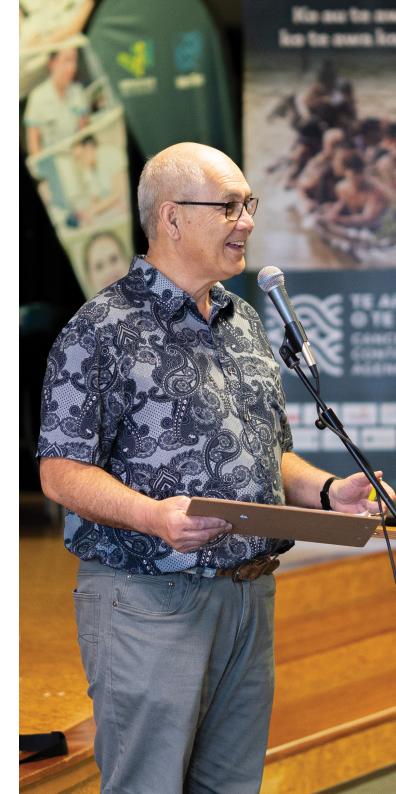
HUI STRUCTURE

Each hui opened with pōwhiri or mihi whakatau from mana whenua, before a short presentation from Te Aho o Te Kahu. This outlined our whakapapa as an organisation, the reasons for the hui and some introductory information on cancer and its' impact on Māori. A local Māori patient and/or whānau also shared their cancer journey as part of the opening kōrero.

Following a break for kai and he kapu tī, structured workshops were then incorporated into the hui programme. The workshops focused on specific cancer topics: primary care, equity, Māori public health, Māori cancer leadership, mātauranga Māori and the whānau cancer journey. Staff from Te Aho o Te Kahu facilitated most of the workshops, with Hapai Te Hauora facilitating the Māori public health workshops and Hei Āhuru Mōwai facilitating the Māori cancer leadership workshops. A total of six workshops were delivered in two rounds at each community cancer hui, so whānau could choose to focus on any two topics. Workshop topics at individual hui occasionally changed depending on the needs and recommendations of the planning ropū, the availability of facilitators and unexpected absences due to Covid-19.

For the remainder of each hui, multiple health and community kaupapa were presented in various formats. For example, a panel discussion took place in Porirua comprising whānau Māori, cancer nurses, advocates, clinicians, and Māori health providers. In other rohe, local providers were all introduced to the audience so that whānau were aware of the support services available locally.

Each regional planning rōpū created promotional banners using local imagery, including maunga, awa, moana, mahinga kai, kapa haka and whakatauki. Local community health providers and whānau Māori including weavers and artists were invited to set up stalls in each venue. Services available included rongoā Māori, mirimiri, rāranga and mahi toi. In breaks during the hui, raffles, waiata and mahi korikori were organised by the planning rōpū to lighten the heaviness of the cancer kōrero. Additionally, the voluntary services of local and Māori and non-Māori health counsellors were made available to Māori cancer stakeholders attending the hui to provide support to those who had shared their cancer journey.

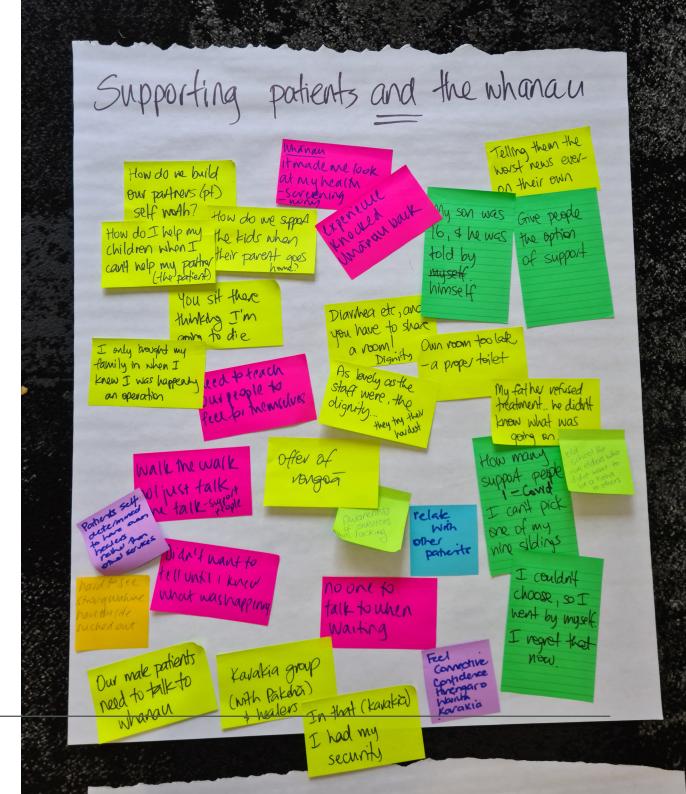




INSIGHT GATHERING

The structured workshops gathered Māori experiences, knowledge and insights on particular aspects of cancer. There was at least one Māori facilitating each workshop, with some workshops being co-facilitated with non-Māori. Most workshops were facilitated by Te Aho o Te Kahu kaimahi, with representatives from Hei Āhuru Mōwai and Hāpai Te Hauora facilitating their respective workshops.

In most workshops, the opportunity to use te reo Māori was created by introductory whakawhanaungatanga. Unfortunately, whakawhanaungatanga was not always fully possible in some workshops due to larger numbers of people attending them and time constraints. Questions relating to each workshop kaupapa focused on knowledge and experiences of Māori cancer stakeholders in relation to the kaupapa. Principles of tika, aroha and pono were enacted to allow the experiences of Māori cancer stakeholders to be shared in a supportive and safe space. This requirement meant that each workshop facilitator would actively take the lead so that korero and the process of sharing of information was supportive and maintained. During the workshops, attending staff from Te Aho o Te Kahu took detailed workshop notes, photographs and collected documents from the workshops (e.g. posters and sticky notes).





ANALYSIS AND REPORT WRITING

The initial analysis of the data was undertaken by selected staff from the Whānau-Centred Care Team within Te Aho o Te Kahu. Notes and photographs taken from the workshop sessions were analysed to identify strong patterns and themes. The themes were categorised into relevant sections of the New Zealand Cancer Action Plan 2019-2029 and then reviewed by the wider Project Team before being presented to a small group of Māori working in the wider cancer sector. The project team then collaborated to draft and review three reports:

 Rongohia Te Reo, Whatua He Oranga: The voices of whānau Māori affected by cancer, which shares the experiences, insights, and aspirations of thousands of whānau Māori affected by cancer.

- 2. Te Tikanga: A kaupapa Māori approach to engaging with whānau Māori affected by cancer (this document) outlines the kaupapa Māori principles that we used to design and deliver the hui series.
- 3. He Urupare: Responding to the experiences of whānau Māori affected by cancer describes some of the work Te Aho o Te Kahu and other health agencies are doing that responds to, or aligns with, whānau insights.

The content for this suite of reports was peer reviewed by a small group of staff within Te Aho o Te Kahu, along with selected members of Hei Āhuru Mōwai and He Ara Tangata.





FINAL REFLECTIONS

This report series stems from the aspirations of Te Aho o Te Kahu to understand the lived experiences of whānau with cancer, and build meaningful relationships with Māori working in the wider cancer sector across Aotearoa. This hui series allowed the newly-formed Agency to connect with over 2,500 Māori cancer stakeholders. Collectively, their voices have further illuminated the challenges and obstacles Māori face when engaging in cancer care services, and their aspirations for change.

Although it was painful at times for whānau, they willingly shared their thoughts, insights, experiences, and aspirations. These taonga are meaningful insights that will help us to effect change and address Māori cancer inequities. The Māori staff at Te Aho o Te Kahu were extremely thankful for the opportunity to work together and engage meaningfully with our communities in this way. The hui series also provided a unique opportunity for non-Maori staff in Te Aho o Te Kahu to learn directly from whānau about their issues and challenges. These learnings will better inform their work today and into the future.

This mahi was not without limitations. While this report represents the voices of many Māori cancer patients and whānau, it cannot represent all. A limited budget restricted the number of hui that could be held, while COVID-19 limited the ability of some whānau to attend and participate. Community and health service providers juggled their support of this kaupapa against the wider backdrop of COVID-19 and announcements of significant system change. For some providers, their commitment to support the hui series was impacted by the rollout of COVID-19 vaccination strategies in their efforts to keep whānau Māori safe and healthy.

While this report series highlights many areas for change among cancer services, ultimately a systems-wide commitment from those in key decision-making positions is critical to enacting and affecting the necessary change required to reduce Māori cancer inequities. In that respect, the voices of whānau have already had a significant impact on the mahi of Te Aho o Te Kahu, with their insights driving changes across many key areas of work. There are also a number of

areas where the insights of whānau as shared in this report directly align with the vision and priorities areas outlined in *Te Pae Tata*, the interim New Zealand Health Plan.

The wero for Te Aho o Te Kahu is to continue engaging purposefully with whānau who have lived experiences of cancer, so that our work continues to reflect whānau needs and aspirations. We must also nurture our relationships with Māori and community stakeholders throughout the country. These relationships are critical, particularly as we move into a new health era where reducing Māori cancer inequity and increasing Māori engagement are now at the forefront of cancer service delivery.

Once again we thank the many whānau who supported this kaupapa. We will carry your voices with us as we share this report with organisations across the health sector and look to drive change that creates fewer cancers, better survival and equitable cancer outcomes for all.





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