



**The Hepatitis
Foundation
of New Zealand**



ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2023 - JUNE 2024



The Board of the Foundation

Te Aorangi Murphy-Fell, Christine Chambers (QSM), Steve Napier, Dr Anna Rolleston,
Prof Ed Gane (MNZM), Dr William Rainger and Dougal Crisp



The Staff of the Foundation

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"Many people with hepatitis B are unaware they have it. It's important to raise awareness of the risk factors so people can get tested and receive the monitoring and follow-up they need to live well."

Sarah Davey, CEO



INTRODUCTION

About 350 million people worldwide have hepatitis B (HBV). Every year between 500,000 to one million people die of HBV related chronic hepatitis (CHB), cirrhosis or liver cancer (HCC).

In 1984, the newly established Hepatitis Foundation implemented the Kawerau Seroprevalence Study, which saw 93 percent of the town's population tested for hepatitis B. The results showed the hepatitis B virus was highly endemic. Nine years later, as a result of our work, NZ was the first sovereign nation to introduce universal hepatitis B vaccination for all children. Forty years on we are still addressing this important public health issue for New Zealand.

In New Zealand almost 94,000 people are estimated to have HBV. Most of these people have no symptoms from their hepatitis B and are living well in the community. Of this approximately 30,000 have been identified since the start of the Foundation.

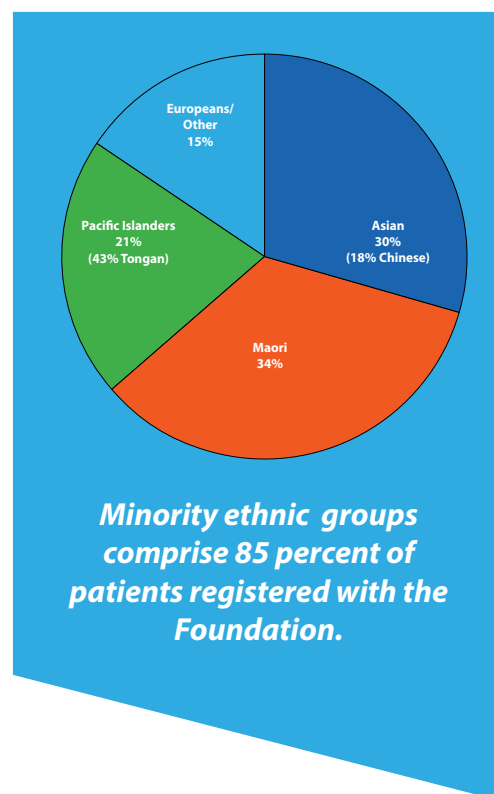
Only a small proportion of people infected with hepatitis B require assessment and treatment in secondary care. For the majority who are asymptomatic there is a small but significant lifetime risk of liver failure and HCC. Every year an estimated 200-300 New Zealanders die from hepatitis B-related liver disease.

Six-monthly blood test monitoring of people infected with chronic hepatitis B picks up early signs of liver disease such as cirrhosis and HCC, reducing morbidity and mortality.

World Health Organisation Elimination of Viral Hepatitis by 2030 Targets

New Zealand is one of the 196 countries participating in the World Health Organisation's initiative to eliminate viral hepatitis by 2030. The WHO has developed the "Elimination of Viral Hepatitis by 2030 Targets". These targets include a reduction in incidence of new infections by 90 percent, an increase in treatment uptake to 80 percent of those who meet current treatment criteria and a 65 percent reduction in HBV-related mortality. The Hepatitis Foundation is working with key stakeholders to develop a Framework for Action towards achieving these targets in New Zealand.

Robinson T, et al. NZ Med J. 2005;118: No.1211



WHAT WE DO

The Hepatitis Foundation of New Zealand (HFNZ) is a charitable trust, contracted to Health New Zealand/ Te Whatu Ora to provide a long-term health monitoring programme that supports people living with hepatitis B.

We do this through delivering a free, lifelong, national monitoring programme for all people living with hepatitis B in New Zealand to help improve health outcomes. People enrolled in this programme receive regular monitoring, education, support and referral to secondary care (if required).

We work in partnership with GP clinics and other health providers to support the ongoing care of their patients living with hepatitis B. GPs informed of patient management, through letters and copies of results.

The Foundation has approximately 20,000 people undergoing regular six-monthly monitoring at any one time. It also provides education and advocacy to the public. It is often asked for support regarding immigration and employment.

To meet WHO elimination goals we are focused on increasing the number of people receiving regular care for hepatitis B from 20,000 to 64,000; and increasing the treatment uptake from 20% to 80% of those that meet current treatment criteria.

VISION

Our vision is to eliminate hepatitis B in Aotearoa, New Zealand



An estimated 94,000 people in New Zealand are living with hepatitis B.

We provide enrolled patients with:

- Blood tests six-monthly (or as required)
- Clinical oversight
- Education
- Support
- Home visits if required
- Free testing of other family members

STRATEGY

To improve access to testing and uptake of treatment that is equitable and fair.

The priority populations for The Foundation reflect those that are adversely affected by chronic hepatitis B infection and are more likely to experience barriers to mainstream health care.

The priority populations are Māori, Pacific, and Asian New Zealanders.

To increase awareness and understanding of viral hepatitis in New Zealand.

Build capability in primary care, community and hauora Māori providers, to identify patients at increased risk of hepatitis B, and ultimately liver cancer and, to monitor patients with CHB, in a timely way.

To improve health outcomes for people living with hepatitis B by working in partnership with community based health providers and organisations.

The Foundation is committed to Te Tiriti ō Waitangi to ensure Māori patients and their whānau are able to access health services through a community based approach.

This means the Foundation works in partnership with other health providers in particular Māori health providers who can offer a whānau ora approach i.e., a holistic care model.

ORGANISATIONAL VALUES

Our vision is to eliminate hepatitis B in New Zealand

Our values guide our work and are always top of mind in everything we do. The foundation's organisational values communicate our commitment to Te Tiriti ō Waitangi and to provide a service that aims for the best health outcomes for all our patients.

We educate New Zealanders on the importance of getting tested for hepatitis B and to register for our free long-term community monitoring programme if they have chronic hepatitis B.

Manaakitanga

Care, respect and support - valuing others and their contribution.

Pūkengatanga

Skills and knowledge - teaching, preserving and creating knowledge.



VALUES

Rangatiratanga

Leadership - enabling others by leading the way.

Kotahitanga

Oneness/unity - working together to achieve goals.

2024 HIGHLIGHTS & TRENDS

Liver
Cancer
Blood test
PIVKA
trial ends

Community
events and
Hauora Days

28 July
2023 World
Hepatitis Day
Community
Event

Australasian
Society for HIV,
Viral Hepatitis
and Sexual Health
Medicine ASHM
Conference
in Australia

New CE
Sarah
Davey

TOTAL NUMBER OF PATIENTS ON MONITORING

2024 **19,206**
2023 **18,883**



2024 **1,028**
2023 **824**
2022 **683**



PEOPLE HAVE
BEEN REFERRED TO
HFNZ



2024 **56,094**
2023 **53,608**
2022 **32,791**



TOTAL PATIENT EMAILS
& LETTERS HAVE BEEN
SENT

WE'VE SENT



2024 **29,499**
2023 **23,045**
2022 **23,177**



BLOOD TEST FORMS

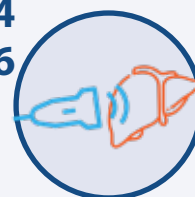


2024 **4,143** **22%**
2023 **3,725** **20%**

PATIENTS ON
TREATMENT



2024 **1,529**
2023 **434**
2022 **326**



FIBROSCANS
CONDUCTED

2024 **1,357**
2023 **1,297**
2022 **1,222**



TOTAL NUMBER OF
HIGH RISK PATIENTS



2024 **34**
2023 **41**
2022 **29**



HCC DIAGNOSIS



2024 **1,440**
2023 **1,794**
2022 **2,998**



CALLS HAVE COME
THROUGH OUR HELPLINE

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT



Liver health research shows 27 percent of our patients live in NZ's most deprived areas. More than half (51 percent) live in the Auckland region.

Dr William Rainger

The Hepatitis Foundation of New Zealand remains committed in its purpose: providing essential, free services to those living with hepatitis B while raising awareness and educating whānau, communities, and healthcare professionals.

Hepatitis B is a persistent public health challenge, with an estimated 94,000 people in Aotearoa, New Zealand affected, disproportionately impacting Māori, Asian, and Pacific communities.

As one of 136 nations committed to the World Health Organisation's 2030 elimination goal, the Foundation continues to play a pivotal role in achieving this ambitious target.

Our strategy focuses on developing innovative, collaborative models that enhance equity, access, and impact across primary and community health networks. Financial sustainability remains a key challenge, further driving our commitment to innovation.

Elevating hepatitis B on the national health agenda and advocating for a comprehensive Hepatitis B Action Plan are critical to addressing disparities and ensuring systemic change.

This year, the Board welcomed Sarah Davey as CEO, succeeding Susan Hay. My gratitude goes to my fellow Trustees for their unwavering dedication to the Foundation's mission.

CEO'S REPORT



It's a privilege to join a team that tirelessly strives to make a difference in the lives of individuals and whānau affected by hepatitis B.

Sarah Davey

I commenced the role as the CEO of the Hepatitis Foundation of New Zealand in January 2024. I am inspired by the dedication and passion I've encountered since I started, both within our organisation and communities. It's a privilege to join a team that tirelessly strives to make a difference in the lives of individuals and whānau affected by hepatitis B.

This year, our clinical register grew from 18,883 to 19,206 individuals, reflecting an increase in referrals and enhanced access to care. This means more people are receiving regular monitoring and coordinated support across primary and secondary care, enabling better management of this complex illness.

A cornerstone of our efforts is raising awareness and educating individuals, whānau, and healthcare professionals. Our nurses and Māori Engagement Coordination team have visited hundreds of GP practices and attended numerous community events, leveraging tools like point-of-care testing to break down barriers and connect people to care.

Looking ahead to 2025, our focus remains on identifying undiagnosed individuals, connecting them with monitoring and support, and ultimately working towards eliminating hepatitis B in New Zealand.

Together, we are making strides toward a healthier future for all.

CLINICIAN'S REPORT



In line with international clinical guidance, HFNZ facilitated numerous patient referrals to General Practices to initiate hepatitis B treatment in primary care.

Dr Chris Moyes MNZM

Updated Guidance for Hepatitis B Management

The Foundation released The Management of Hepatitis B – A Guide for Health Professionals, promoting best practices for Primary Care. Updated guidance recommends treatment for all individuals over 30 with viral loads above 2000 mIU/mL to reduce lifetime risk of liver cancer. This highlights Primary Care's vital role in long-term management.

Primary Care Engagement and Education

HFNZ engaged with approximately 240 General Practices and health providers in 2023/2024, with a strong focus on rural areas. This included educational sessions and daily support for Hepatitis B-related enquiries. A three-month campaign leading up to, and around World Hepatitis Day 2024 enhanced awareness and education efforts.

Conference Participation

HFNZ nurses and staff attended key conferences, including the Goodfellow Symposium, Hepatology Networking Meeting, and Gastroenterological Society Annual Scientific Meeting. Presentations and awareness stalls showcased HFNZ's expertise in Hepatitis B care.

Encouraging Treatment Access in Primary Care

In line with international clinical guidance, HFNZ facilitated numerous patient referrals to General Practices to initiate hepatitis B treatment in primary care. These referrals incorporated six-monthly blood testing aligned with the Gold Standard of care. Policies were formalised to include GPs in managing acute cases.

Responding to Secondary Care Pressures

Amid increasing pressures in Secondary Care, such as staff shortages in Gastroenterology, HFNZ emphasised the importance of Primary Care in managing low-risk cases and provided comprehensive support to Hepatitis B patients.

Clinical Trials and Innovations

HFNZ partnered with New Zealand Clinical Research (NZCR) to recruit patients for clinical trials. A trial for using GAAD/PIVKA 11 blood testing for early liver cancer detection was completed successfully. However, further funding and overseas results are needed for implementation.

Stakeholder Trust

Feedback from external organisations affirmed HFNZ as a trusted source of best practice guidance in Hepatitis B management, reinforcing its pivotal role in healthcare delivery across Aotearoa New Zealand.

MĀORI ENGAGEMENT REPORT



In line with international clinical guidance, HFNZ facilitated numerous patient referrals to General Practices to initiate hepatitis B treatment in primary care.

Lucy Rio

This year, we actively engaged with communities across the motu, attending 81 events including health expos, marae visits, community festivals, and hauora days. We connected with individuals in their familiar spaces, using their language and supported by their whanau.

We administered 315 point-of-care tests, conducted over 800 quizzes, and distributed 600+ information packs. These interactions provided valuable opportunities for education, awareness, and networking.

Key highlights include:

- The positive impact of on-site testing, which allows for early intervention and support. We administered 315 tests, with 6 returning positive results.
- The gratitude expressed by community members for our services and knowledge. Many recipients of our 25+ grocery hampers shared their delight and gratitude.
- The development of strong relationships and trust within the communities we serve. We engaged in meaningful conversations, shared cultural practices, and built rapport with individuals and whānau.
- We also identified significant barriers to healthcare access, including cost, transportation, and limited GP availability.

These insights will inform future strategies to improve health outcomes for our communities. We will continue to advocate for increased access to healthcare services, particularly in rural and underserved areas.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Kiwifruit Workers from Kirabus



Have a Heart



World Hep Day



Chinese New Year Festival



Good Fellow Conference



SUMMARY AUDITOR'S REPORT



BDO ROTORUA LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HEPATITIS FOUNDATION OF NEW ZEALAND

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Hepatitis Foundation of New Zealand ("the Foundation"), which comprise the financial statements on pages 9 to 24, and the service performance information on pages 6 to 8. The complete set of financial statements comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, statement of changes in net assets/equity, statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects:

- the financial position of the Foundation as at 30 June 2024, and (of) its financial performance, and its cash flows for the year then ended; and
- the service performance for the year ended 30 June 2024, in accordance with the entity's service performance criteria,

in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards Reduced Disclosure Regime ("PBE Standards RDR") issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit of the financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISAs (NZ)) and the audit of the service performance information in accordance with the ISAs and New Zealand Auditing Standard (NZ AS) 1 *The Audit of Service Performance Information (NZ)*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the General Purpose Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards) (New Zealand)* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

In addition to our audit of the financial statements, BDO Tauranga Limited assists with the compilation of the financial statements and other bookkeeping service for the Foundation. The network has no other relationship with, or interests in, the Foundation.

Other Information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is information contained in the general purpose financial report but does not include the service performance information and the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the service performance information and financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of audit opinion or assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the service performance information and financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the service performance information and the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

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Refer to [Charities Services](#) for the final financial statements.

SUMMARY AUDITOR'S REPORT



BDO ROTORUA LIMITED

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Trustees' Responsibilities for the General Purpose Financial Report

Those charged with governance are responsible on behalf of the Foundation for:

- (a) the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and service performance information in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards RDR issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board;
- (b) service performance criteria that are suitable in order to prepare service performance information in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards RDR; and
- (c) such internal control as those charged with governance determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements and service performance information that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the general purpose financial report those charged with governance are responsible for assessing the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless those charged with governance either intend to liquidate the Foundation or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the General Purpose Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole, and the service performance information are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and NZ AS 1 will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate or collectively, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of this general purpose financial report.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the general purpose financial report is located at the XRB's website at

<https://www.xrb.govt.nz/standards/assurance-standards/auditors-responsibilities/audit-report-14/>

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Who we Report to

This report is made solely to the Foundation's Trustees, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Foundation and the Foundation's Trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.

BDO Rotorua Limited

BDO Rotorua Limited
Rotorua
New Zealand
5 December 2024

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Refer to [Charities Services](#) for the final financial statements.

SUMMARISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT



Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses

The Hepatitis Foundation of New Zealand
For the year ended 30 June 2024

	NOTES	2024	2023
Revenue from Operations			
Revenue from Exchange Transactions			
Surveillance Contract		1,622,822	1,545,545
Hepatitis C Contract		-	81,200
Finance Income		205,121	195,023
Sundry Income		14,857	7,201
Realised Gain/ Loss on Sale of Investments		127,247	68,307
Total Revenue from Exchange Transactions		1,970,048	1,897,275
Revenue from Non-Exchange Transactions			
Fair Value Movement in Investments Measured At Fair Value Through Surplus or Deficit		144,109	133,570
Total Revenue from Non-Exchange Transactions		144,109	133,570
Gain on Sale of Asset		194	-
Total Revenue from Operations		2,114,351	2,030,846
Expenses			
Awareness		28,430	24,905
Client Management		98,937	95,430
Depreciation & Amortisation		28,049	38,881
Education & Resources		62,475	52,105
General Overheads		350,365	306,001
Grants & Donations		240	200
Loss on Disposal of Assets		455	1,041
Meetings & Conferences		13,396	7,355
Operational Expenses		43,657	70,205
Vehicle Expenses		96,387	89,385
Wages		1,617,564	1,515,447
Total Expenses		2,339,953	2,200,955
Surplus (Deficit) for the Year from Operations		(225,603)	(170,109)
Total Surplus (Deficit) for the Year attributable to:			
Owners of the controlling entity		(225,603)	(170,109)
Total Surplus (Deficit) for the Year		(225,603)	(170,109)
Total Comprehensive Revenue & Expenses for the Year attributable to:			
Owners of the controlling entity		(225,603)	(170,109)
Total Comprehensive Revenue & Expenses for the Year		(225,603)	(170,109)

These statements are to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements.

SUMMARISED FINANCIAL STATEMENT



Statement of Financial Position

The Hepatitis Foundation of New Zealand
As at 30 June 2024

	NOTES	30 JUN 2024	30 JUN 2023
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4	730,187	337,289
Term Deposits	5	215,640	976,384
Interest Receivable		2,544	17,817
Goods and Services Tax		15,526	21,403
Receivables from Exchange Transactions		2,128	8,288
Prepayments		56,898	36,385
Total Current Assets		1,022,923	1,398,164
Non-Current Assets			
Term Deposits	5	158,581	513,457
Investments	6	4,953,560	4,485,984
Property, Plant and Equipment		751,285	773,588
Subdivision Costs	11	74,694	18,696
Total Non-Current Assets		5,938,120	5,791,724
Total Assets		6,961,043	7,189,888
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Payables from Exchange Transactions	10	97,518	110,393
Employee Entitlements		200,389	190,757
Total Current Liabilities		297,907	301,150
Total Liabilities		297,907	301,150
Net Assets		6,663,136	6,888,738
Total Equity			
Total Equity		6,663,136	6,888,738
Total Total Equity		6,663,136	6,888,738

Signed for and on behalf of the Board of Trustees who authorised these Financial Statements for issue on 4 December 2024.

Trustee

Trustee

These statements are to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements.



The Hepatitis Foundation of New Zealand

The Hepatitis Foundation of New Zealand will continue to look to the future on how to improve the lives of people living with hepatitis B. We are committed to further reducing the devastating consequences of chronic hepatitis.

www.hepatitisfoundation.org.nz
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