



Let's prioritise the  
health of  
New Zealanders.

**OUR HEALTH POLICY**

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**IT'S WITH US.**

**Democracy****NZ**

# DemocracyNZ

## OUR POLICY: HEALTH

### Background

The healthcare system in New Zealand is in a sad and sorry state – as evidenced by unacceptably long wait times in public hospital emergency rooms. The system has been degraded over time by under-investment and is facing increasing challenges.

These include an aging population, increasing medication costs, and an escalating number of lifestyle diseases due to a lack of focus on disease prevention. This means the general health of our population is at risk. Government policies during the pandemic, like extended lockdowns, firing experienced unvaccinated health workers, COVID-19 vaccinations, and postponing surgeries, have increased stress on our already strained health system.

### Our solution

We will start correcting several decades of mismanagement by putting in place measures to prevent failed policies continuing to further harm people's health. Addressing the root causes of disease and better resourcing primary care can significantly improve our population's health. We will seek to refocus our healthcare system around healthcare and not disease management with a purely pharmaceutical lens. Acute medical and surgical care will remain a priority.

**1. We will immediately stop the COVID-19 vaccination rollout, given high rates of serious adverse events and longer-term safety concerns. We will also outlaw vaccination mandates and enable an urgent and comprehensive pandemic inquiry.**

The COVID-19 vaccination programme was implemented without medium to long-term safety data, and without due consideration of the risks and benefits to sectors of the population not at risk of dying from COVID.

Adverse event reporting was not made compulsory. The limited adverse events data we do have show far greater numbers of serious side effects occur than with any other vaccine. Based on the best local and [international data](#) presently available, there are likely to be at least 11,000 New Zealanders who have suffered serious, life altering, or fatal reactions. Additionally, it has been clear for some time that the vaccine simply does not work, and natural immunity is superior.

Mandating these injections on healthy, mostly low risk individuals, was unethical and dangerous. We will demand a wide-ranging pandemic inquiry to ensure the Government is held fully accountable for decisions that significantly impacted on people's health, livelihood and freedoms. This inquiry is important to regain public trust in the healthcare system and Government.

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### **We will:**

- Require Medsafe to immediately withdraw and recall all COVID-19 vaccinations and make it illegal to administer these vaccines in New Zealand until the safety and efficacy of the vaccines has been fully established.
- Bring back experienced health workers into our workforce by instructing Government agencies to remove COVID-19 vaccination mandates.
- Legislate to make vaccination mandates illegal across all employment sectors (including public and private sector employers).
- Disband the current limited scope COVID-19 Public Inquiry, and appoint a new wide-ranging inquiry, similar to the [Norfolk Group](#) framework. This will examine how existing legislation failed to protect New Zealanders.
- Require a comprehensive review of the operation and funding of the New Zealand Pharmacovigilance Centre and Centre for Adverse Reactions Monitoring, who did not heed early international evidence of COVID-19 vaccine harm, prior to the mass rollout in New Zealand. The centre then failed to detect clear safety signals during the New Zealand COVID-19 vaccination programme.

### **2. We will improve public health by focusing on disease prevention and reducing bureaucracy. Health services will be prioritised by need not race, and local communities will be encouraged to contribute to health decision-making.**

Most chronic disease is preventable. Our current health system is focused on slowing disease and treating its symptoms with drugs, rather than preventing disease. Meaningful prevention starts with better education about how to take care of your health. Tailoring nutrition to individual needs, prioritising exercise, and stress reduction all contribute to improved wellbeing.

We need to take immediate steps to enable more health professionals to join our workforce to address the current workforce crisis, including the removal of vaccination mandates.

We believe that health services should be prioritised by need, not ancestry, and to do otherwise is undemocratic and harmful to New Zealanders' health. We also believe in decentralising healthcare decision-making, involving local communities, and reducing bureaucracy so that healthcare professionals can focus on patient care and not paperwork.

### **We will:**

- Help address the shortage of health workers by directing the Medical, Dental, Nursing, Allied Health Councils and specialty colleges to immediately review and fast-track pathways for the registration of qualified overseas healthcare professionals.
- Increase the number of qualified nurses by creating a new model to train nurses which is vocational, and apprenticeship-based.
- Increase the number of doctors by increasing medical school places, and remove ancestry-based medical school quotas.
- Disestablish the Māori health authority and remove criteria prioritising access to health services on race. Health services should be accessible to all New Zealanders, and prioritised on need.
- Work to reduce the cost and increase the availability of nourishing food, with particular focus on low-income areas, including supporting direct farm-to-consumer initiatives.
- Refocus public health on evidence-based disease prevention, and review and reassess medication guidelines, and other mass medication carried out for public health.

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- Create tax incentives for people and companies who hold private health insurance – to recognise that this reduces pressure on an overstretched public health service.
- Review how health services are marketed to the public to ensure they don't misrepresent risks or benefits.

### **3. We will restore the independence of medical science and practice by redrafting the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act and Medicines Act to be consistent with the Bill of Rights.**

Both these Acts contain important provisions which allow health professionals to exercise their professional judgement to make recommendations about patient care. Labour Government policies have resulted in their being suspended or ignored. We need to amend these Acts to enshrine the protections included in the Bill of Rights Act around informed consent and medical freedom for patients and practitioners.

#### **We will:**

- Prioritise patient safety and the right to medical autonomy by strengthening the duty of the Medical Council to protect the ethical basis of medicine. During the pandemic this was replaced with an obligation to carry out government policies.
- Reverse disciplinary actions initiated against health providers who provided ethical care and treatment during the COVID-19 response.

### **4. We will restore New Zealanders' sovereignty over health policy decision-making. We will cancel agreements with the World Health Organisation and other unelected private entities which undermine national self-determination.**

The WHO Pandemic Treaty and the International Health Regulations (IHR) mean that the unelected members of the WHO can declare further Public Health Emergencies of International Concern. This action would require member countries to take actions which could include forcibly testing, treating and isolating their population. This impacts on the human rights of New Zealanders. It affects our rights to make our own health choices, our freedom of movement, our right to privacy, recreation, employment, and other basics of life.

These international agreements also allow for the introduction of a digital biometric ID, and passports which include vaccination status. This could limit our ability to make our own health choices and travel internationally.

#### **We will:**

- Remove New Zealand from the Pandemic Treaty and International Health Regulation amendments, so decisions about our pandemic response are made by New Zealanders
- Evaluate whether WHO membership benefits New Zealand, and reassess our membership.

### **5. We will respect people's right to choose natural health products and services by repealing the Therapeutic Products Bill and impose an immediate moratorium on all GMO and gene-modifying biotechnology products in human and animal medicine.**

The Therapeutic Products Bill removes access to fundamentally safer natural health products and treatments used already by more than half of all New Zealanders. It could also destroy the livelihood of many alternative health practitioners and suppliers.

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The Bill also reduces the requirements to regulate new pharmaceuticals and biotechnology products, many of which historically are later withdrawn. Biotechnology products can change the very building blocks of life itself. Damage from new gene technologies to human genetics could continue to appear for generations. We consider that full and careful evaluation is required before any novel biotech products are approved, and we support a moratorium being put in place to allow this to occur. This will allow us to observe the precautionary principle of 'First Do No Harm.'

#### **We will:**

- Protect people's rights to use vitamins and supplements by repealing the Therapeutic Products Bill and opposing further regulation of natural/alternative health treatments.
- Support restrictions on natural health products only if they are known to cause harm.
- Immediately pause the use of GMO and biotechnology products, including mRNA and similar vaccine use in livestock, as we don't understand their long-term health effects.
- Review legislation around the marketing and lobbying activities of pharmaceutical companies and consider banning direct-to-consumer advertising of pharmaceuticals.

#### **6. We will acknowledge the serious adverse impacts COVID vaccines have had on people and on our health system, support all those affected through research and treatment, and pursue full compensation from vaccine manufacturers.**

The New Zealand healthcare system is experiencing high levels of illness, including elevated levels of cardiovascular disease, autoimmune disease, and cancers. We need to investigate whether COVID-19 vaccines are contributing to this worrying trend.

Many vaccine-injured people are not receiving enough support from our healthcare system. ACC claims for vaccine injury also need to be reviewed and, in most cases, reassessed in light of clear evidence of dangerous adverse effects.

#### **We will:**

- Publicly acknowledge the vaccine injured and apologise to all those harmed.
- Immediately review all ACC decisions on vaccine injuries, taking into account recent science on vaccine side effects. Clear guidance will be provided on assessing causation.
- Work to enable the release of full, unedited copies of agreements between the New Zealand Government and vaccine manufacturers.
- Direct Crown Law to investigate obtaining compensation from COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers and assess whether any criminal or fraudulent actions were carried out by COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers.
- Legislate to require full data transparency from HealthNZ and StatisticsNZ on vaccine injuries and health statistics. This means that anonymised (but uniquely identified) record-level birth, death, vaccination, and disease data is available for public scrutiny and epidemiological research.

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# OUR HEALTH POLICY FOR ALL NEW ZEALANDERS

We will:

1. Halt COVID-19 vaccine rollout, cancel vaccination mandates, enact a pandemic inquiry.
2. Focus on disease prevention and reduce bureaucracy. Prioritise by need not race.
3. Redraft the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act and Medicines Act to be consistent with the Bill of Rights.
4. Restore New Zealanders' sovereignty, cancel agreements with the WHO and unelected private entities which undermine national self-determination.
5. Repeal the Therapeutic Products Bill and impose a moratorium on GMO and gene-modifying biotechnology products in human and animal medicine.
6. Acknowledge, support and compensate all those affected by the serious adverse impacts of COVID vaccines.

[www.democracynz.org/policy](http://www.democracynz.org/policy)

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