

4 October 2023

To: All Primary Health Organisations and general practices

Queenstown outbreak of Cryptosporidium: Reimbursement for faecal specimen collection and electronic notification

There is an ongoing Cryptosporidium outbreak in Queenstown. The source of the outbreak is still unknown. Some people visiting Queenstown may develop symptoms after departing from Queenstown, e.g. to return to their usual place of residence.

On Friday 22 September 2023 the Public Health Service within Te Whatu Ora requested all general practices to assist with surveillance testing by collecting faecal samples from suspected cases related to this outbreak, and by completing an electronic notification of suspected notifiable disease to Public Health.

Te Whatu Ora is supporting this surveillance programme by reimbursing general practices \$40 plus GST for each suspected case notified. Patients must have visited Queenstown on or after 18th August 2023. This reimbursement is intended to cover supplying the sample collection kit, referring the collected sample to the local laboratory, electronically notifying Public Health of a suspected case, and notifying the patient about positive test results. It is not intended to cover any other clinical care – practices may continue to charge such patients their normal fees.


WellSouth Primary Health Network has agreed to manage claims for reimbursement from its practices. WellSouth practices should refer to the communications sent to them on the process for claiming.

Other general practices can claim reimbursement from Te Whatu Ora Southern by submitting a tax invoice:

1. by email to contracts@southerndhb.govt.nz
2. addressed to: Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand – Southern District, Finance Department
3. showing the number of suspected cases tested and notified to Public Health, and
4. accompanied by a copy of a bank deposit slip to confirm bank account details.

Invoices are to be submitted at month end for payment to be made on the 20th day of the month following the month in which the invoice is received.

For any queries about this reimbursement please contact the Contracts team at Te Whatu Ora Southern by emailing contracts@southerndhb.govt.nz.



For further information on clinical management of suspected cases please refer to HealthPathways.

Ngā mihi

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