

# Timaru Medical Centre Update

## New Fees from 1 December for Community Services Cardholders & under 14s

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, the election promises have been honored with a reduction in consultation fees for enrolled patients that have a community services card (CSC) From 1 December, the zero fees scheme increases to include 13 year olds, where previously it was up to 12 years.



Patients with a CSC & their dependents will receive a reduced fee for consultations during normal practice hours. This will be \$12.50 for those aged 14—17 years of age and \$18.50 for those 18 years of age & over .

At the end of November, the practice will receive information to assist us in identifying CSC holders and their dependents. This means that you do not need to bring your CSC in with you. If you are unsure whether you qualify for a CSC, please make contact with MSD.

The information below may assist. Individuals may be entitled to apply for a Community Services Card if they meet the following criteria:

- Aged 18 years old or over (or 16–17 years old in full-time tertiary study)
- On a low to middle income (depending on their family situation)
- A New Zealand citizen or permanent resident
- Some Super Gold Card Holders may have a combo card that includes their Community Services Card details and expiry date on the back of their card.
- People living in public housing
- Accommodation supplement recipients.

## Farewell to Dr Liangwei Ng

We are sad to advise that due to a family emergency, Dr Ng has returned to Singapore at short notice. The Practice Team are extremely sad to see Dr Ng leave. He added a fantastic vibrancy to the practice, as well as a huge amount of surgical skill. We know that patients will be sad that Dr Ng is no longer

here but it is a situation that is completely out of anyone's control. TMC is now in the process of recruiting a replacement long term GP. We ask for your patience yet again while we find you another Superstar Doctor. Liangwei would like to thank everyone for their support to him while he was in NZ.

## Get ready for Summer!

Summer is almost here.... Although it doesn't feel like it at the moment.

When the sun does decide to shine, remember to be sun smart. Slip on a shirt or into the shade, Slap on some sunscreen, Slap on a hat & Wrap on some sunglasses. 'I never get sunburn' is no longer a good reason! Don't forget the wee ones! They rely on you to

keep them safe.

Be safe in the water, don't take risks. Again, keep an eye out for the wee ones.

Make sure you use an insect repellent if the bugs like to prey on you.

Beat the Christmas rush, don't forget to order your repeat prescriptions in advance, don't leave it until last minute ,as we may not be able to provide at short notice.

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## Our Services

- Medical Consultations
- Referrals to Secondary Care & Specialists.
- Vaccinations
- Minor Surgery
- Cervical Screening
- Insurance Medicals
- Pre-employment Checks
- Drivers Medicals
- Lifestyle advice
- Sexual Health
- Medication reviews
- Travel consults & vaccinations

## BRIEF

- Dr Kevin Lau will be with us from December for three months doing his GP rotation.
- Please take care in the car park. Keep your speed low and stick to your side of the driveway. Thank you
- We are open through Christmas & New Year, only closed for the stat days. On the days closed, as usual, Timaru After Hours Medical Service on Dee Street is available.
- Don't forget to sign up for the Patient Portal to book appointments and order scripts online.

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