

Clinical Director
Neurology Department
xx DHB
Address Lines

Dear Clinical Director,

Re: Tele-medicine and neurology patients

We are writing on behalf of the Neurological Alliance¹ to encourage the continued provision of tele-medicine as an option for patients with neurological disorders.

The recent changes in provision of care by medical specialists due to covid-19 has shown itself to be a silver lining for patients with neurological disorders.

People with neurological disorders often experience issues with mobility and access. The provision of specialist consults via phone or video have meant that people who would have otherwise struggled to attend an appointment in a clinic have been able to be seen in the comfort and safety of their own home. This has been a positive experience for many.

Additionally, tele-medicine is an effective way to deliver greater services to geographical areas of Aotearoa New Zealand where neurology services are scarce.

In line with our mission to see the incidence of neurological disorders reduced and people with neurological conditions and related disabilities have the best possible quality of life we urge that your service continues to provide tele-medicine options for patients such as those with neurological disorders including Parkinson's, Motor Neuron disease, neuromuscular conditions, and Alzheimer's Disease.

For more information or to discuss further please do not hesitate to contact any of the members of the Neurological Alliance, listed below.

Yours Sincerely,

Neurological Alliance

About the Neurological Alliance

The Neurological Alliance was established in 1999 to provide a forum for organisations representing a neurological disease to work together and make representations on matters of common interest. All members have a common desire to promote community awareness of neurological diseases and to see that the needs of people with neurological conditions are met.

<http://www.neurologicalalliance.org.nz/>

¹ The Neurological Alliance is made up of the following organisations (listed alphabetically):

Catherine Hall

Alzheimers New Zealand

Gilli Sinclair

Cerebral Palsy Society

Ross Smith

Epilepsy New Zealand

Jo Dysart

Huntington's Disease Association New Zealand

Carl Sunderland

Motor Neuron Disease New Zealand

Neil Woodhams

Multiple Sclerosis New Zealand

Miriam Rodrigues

Muscular Dystrophy New Zealand

Rich Easton

Neurological Foundation of New Zealand

Tammy Ramsey-Evans

Parkinson's New Zealand

Lisa Foster

Rare Disorders NZ

Mark Vivian

Stroke Foundation New Zealand