

NPH Host Visitors from the Aboriginal Pilbara Indigenous Health

The group headed by **Dr Ian Hague** - The Rural Clinical School Port Hedland Medical Co ordinator - worked in NZ as a GP and medical trainer for more than 30 years – led the 9 day tour. Other members of the group were:

Sylvia Lockyer – Aboriginal Nurse : R/N completing B.A
Has 6 children,

Helen Robertson – Aboriginal Health Worker child health promotion

Gary (Skip) Brahim – Aboriginal Health Worker



Janine Watts – Senior Nurse Quality Manager Port Headland Hospital

After being welcomed to NPH with a powhiri on Monday 4th September 2006 our visitors were accommodated in Te Puia Springs and for the following week participated in daily practices of the Hauora as well as being hosted by different community groups. They also had the opportunity to korero with the community through Radio Ngati Porou.

After an arduous week with NPH the group attended a poroporoaki before moving on to Hauraki to spend time with another provider organisation.



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THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND
FACULTY OF MEDICAL AND
HEALTH SCIENCES

Improving Care for People with Diabetes

There is a growing epidemic of diabetes in Aotearoa, particularly in Maori and some other groups. Nearly 10% of Maori women and 8% of Maori men have diabetes, compared with about 3% of Europeans. Maori are more likely to have damage from diabetes, especially kidney damage. While a third of Europeans with diabetes die of damage from their diabetes, two-thirds of Maori with diabetes die of damage from their diabetes.

Ngati Porou Hauora has approved involvement in a study that investigates the health outcomes of people with diabetes, with the aim of improving the management of the risks of damage from diabetes among all people. The Hauora are working as partners with the Diabetes Cohort Study Team from the Universities of Otago and Auckland this year, and we will report on the outcomes of the study through Nga Kohinga in 2007.

Drs Raina Elley, Tim Kenealy, Dale Bramley and Ngaire Kerse from the Diabetes Cohort Study Team (University of Auckland, University of Otago, Ngati Porou Hauora and other PHO partners) are using some of the anonymous “Get Checked” information to look at ways we could improve care for people with diabetes in the future.

The study will provide tools for GPs and nurses to use with people with diabetes, to prevent diabetes damage for each person. The results will be specific for each ethnic group so Maori will have tools relevant for Maori with diabetes to improve health over the long term. There are many good programmes developing now, but the more we can do to slow this epidemic of diabetes and diabetes damage, the better.