



INFORMATION FOR WHĀNAU

- **iMOKO™ Programme developed by Dr Lance O'Sullivan**
To increase access to health services for children
- **Free Health Checks for Children**
To help prevent complications caused by untreated health problems (skin infections, dental infections, strep throat infections, head lice)
- **iMOKO™ Parent App**
To be informed and help stay on top of problems affecting the health and wellbeing of your whānau

The iMOKO™ Programme by Dr Lance O'Sullivan was developed to increase access to health services for children.

This document is to inform you, as a Parent and health consumer, about the **iMOKO™ Programme – a health care programme designed to increase access to health services for children.**

The iMOKO™ programme was developed in 2013 in response to a need for increased access to health services for children living in remote communities in the Far North. As at October 2016, 4,000 children in over 35 early childhood centres, Kōhanga Reo, primary, intermediate and secondary schools, receive this innovative form of health care using digital technologies.

We are offering your child free health checks at their Kōhanga Reo, daycare or school to help prevent the complications caused by untreated health problems such as:

- ✓ **Skin Infections**
- ✓ **Dental Infections**
- ✓ **Strep Throat Infections**
- ✓ **Head Lice**
- ✓ **Other Health Problems**

With your consent, trained staff members at your child's Kōhanga Reo, daycare or school will use iMOKO™ digital

equipment to collect health information about any of the above conditions your child may have.

The staff members have been instructed on how to use the equipment we provide. They have all been approved by the management of your child's Kōhanga Reo, daycare or school to work with children in this role.

The assessment includes recording some basic health measurements such as height, weight, temperature and heart rate – all this is done using digital health devices. These measurements are important to ensure the health problem we are assessing is not serious enough to require an urgent assessment by a health professional.

The staff member will gather more information from your child about the health condition that your child is presenting with. Often a photo is taken to give the iMOKO™ telehealth team a better idea of what treatment, if any, is needed.

Swabs are taken if your child has a sore throat. This is a painless and simple test involving a cotton swab sweeping the back of the throat. This is important to determine if the serious infection **Strep Throat** is present.

Swabs are also taken if your child has a weepy and infected looking wound. This is to ensure the most effective treatment can be initiated for your child.

The information collected about your child is entered into a unique file using the iMOKO™ application, which the staff member has on a smart device.

Our Vision *To deliver more care to more people for less cost*

Our Mission *To democratise healthcare by putting everyday technology in everyday peoples' hands where they live, work and play, achieving improved outcomes by the people for the people.*

Freephone 0508-4iMOKO (44 66 56) to speak with our team

Once all the required information for your child's health condition has been collected, the information is sent through a secure connection to the iMOKO™ database.

The iMOKO™ Parent App is available for download on Google Play and the App Store. This will give you access to all the information collected about your child. Once you have the iMOKO™ Parent App you will receive notifications about any updates to your child's file.

All information is accessible and monitored by the iMOKO™ telehealth team and used solely for the purpose of assessing and determining an appropriate treatment plan for your child's health care.

A Registered Nurse or Doctor is the only person who can make a decision about treatment for your child. If your child requires treatment, you will be informed by an iMOKO™ staff member or by notification via the iMOKO™ Parent App.

If your child does require treatment, you will be asked from where you would like to collect the treatment - either your local pharmacy, your school or in some cases (depending on your local pharmacist) delivered to your door. There is no charge for using the iMOKO™ service.

The information contained in this document is to help you decide if your child will benefit from the iMOKO™ programme. Discuss it with your whānau so you feel comfortable about making an informed choice for your child.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who will be assessing my child? Your child will be assessed at Kōhanga Reo, daycare or school, by a staff member who has been trained and assessed as competent to use the iMOKO™ equipment. They have also been cleared as safe to work with children. These staff members will be on site for a minimum of three days a week.

What if I do not consent to my child being a part of the iMOKO™ programme? If you do not consent, your child will not be assessed nor registered on the iMOKO™ database. If consent is required for a child who is new to a Kōhanga Reo, daycare or school, the whānau will be contacted.

Does my family GP get informed about my child being assessed and treated by the iMOKO™ team? Yes. Every child who is assessed by the iMOKO™ service has an electronic record of this interaction sent to their family GP. This ensures your family GP is involved and aware of the care being delivered to their patients.

Does this mean I have to register with the iMOKO™ service for my primary health care needs? No. The iMOKO™ service

does not replace your family GP and primary health care team, who are there to provide you and your family with comprehensive primary health services. The iMOKO™ service is designed to enhance this care rather than replace it.

If my child has a dental infection what happens next? We will arrange to have your child assessed by a local dental service. Often dental infections occur when dental decay is present.

Does this cost me anything? No. This service is completely free for your child if they attend an iMOKO™ programme Kōhanga Reo, daycare or school. Costs may only be incurred for other family members. Any person over the age of 13 years is required by our health system to pay a surcharge for medication.

Are photos taken of sensitive areas? No. Photos or videos will not be taken of your child if their infection is on an area of the body deemed to be sensitive (genital and buttock areas).

What are the skin conditions covered by the iMOKO™ programme? The most common skin conditions are:

Scabies: A mite that causes a very itchy widespread skin condition that almost always infects others in the household.

Eczema: A common problem we manage that is often infected. We use topical steroid creams (strong ointment to reduce anger of eczema) and emollients (moisturisers) to manage this problem.

School Sores: Also known as *impetigo*, appears as a honey crusted, infected sore(s) that doesn't heal and is generally painful. They need antibiotics (medication to treat infection), either topical (ointment) or oral (syrup, tablets, capsules).

Infected wounds and cellulitis: Similar to *impetigo* and also need antibiotics to clear.

Do skin infections spread? Yes. They spread very easily and are highly contagious if you live in a crowded home.

How serious are skin infections if not treated? Untreated skin infections can, in some cases, cause serious complications such as deep bone and joint infections, kidney damage and Rheumatic Fever.

If you would like to discuss any of this information, please talk to the trained staff at the Kōhanga Reo, daycare or school, or call the freephone number listed below to speak with the iMOKO team.