



## Health Committee Newsletter: November 2015

### Draft NZ Health Strategy

Consultation on a draft update of the New Zealand Health Strategy is now under way. The consultation period will run for six weeks and closes 5pm, Friday 4 December 2015.

[Consultation draft part i](#)

[Consultation draft part ii](#)

### The Sweetest taboo

Sugar is everywhere. But, as actuaries, do we really understand the impact it has on our health, and how we can better allow for sugar intake in underwriting? [Jean Eu investigates.](#)

### Tender still important to maintain NZers' access to medicines

PHARMAC's annual [tender continues](#) to achieve its objectives, freeing up nearly \$45 million from the 2014/15 tender round to reinvest in more medicines for more New Zealanders.

### More young adults taking out health insurance

More New Zealanders aged 25-35 are taking out [health insurance policies](#), according to statistics released today by the Health Funds Association of New Zealand (HFANZ).

### Updated New Zealand health system cost estimates from health events by sex, age and proximity to death: further improvements in the age of 'big data'

[This paper](#) presents updated results for all the objectives and analyses in the previously published article, provides additional context to the current developments in access to health data in New Zealand and outlines the next steps to further improve the quality of New Zealand health system costing data for research.

### Calculating cardiovascular risk with online calculators – scope for improvement?

[This paper](#) discusses the publicly available calculators for cardiovascular risk, their benefits and ways of further improvement.

### Political developments on FBT for health insurance in NZ

These are a number of articles and papers on the development of the Affordable Healthcare Bill.

[Prime Minister John Key admires Australia's health insurance model](#)

[Removal of FBT key to improved wellness in the workplace](#)



[Affordable Healthcare Bill important for New Zealanders: HFANZ](#)

[NZ considers private health shake-up](#)

[Affordable Healthcare Bill](#)

[Affordable Healthcare Bill 2015 \(Member's Bill, Rt Hon Winston Peters\)](#)

[Affordable Healthcare Bill – Members Bill](#)

### **Statistics on cancer**

This [annual publication](#) presents data (numbers and age-standardised rates) for cancer registrations and deaths in 2012. This is the latest release of routine information for all cancers.

[These tables](#) present summary cancer registration and death data (numbers and age-standardised rates), by sex for selected cancers from 1948 to 2012. The 2012 data comes from the Cancer: New registrations and deaths 2012 publication described above.

[These tables](#) present cancer registration data (numbers and age-standardised rates) by sex and ethnic group for selected priority coded cancers for 2012, 2013 and 2014. Data for 2013 and 2014 are provisional and subject to change. The 2012 data are final and come from the Cancer: New registrations and deaths 2012 publication described above.

### **Progress on the cross government New Zealand Carers' Strategy Action Plan**

The cross government [New Zealand Carers' Strategy Action Plan](#) for 2014 to 2018 was launched on 18 February 2014. Good progress has been made during the first year. Cost of care has significant impact on public funded health care, including ACC.

### **2014 WorkSafe British Columbia statistics**

The 2014 Work Safe British Columbia statistics is [now available](#). It can be a useful data source for comparing the statistics of work place injuries with that in NZ.