

Health package factsheet

Overview: This initial \$500 million fund is to strengthen our health services to fight and contain COVID-19. This package makes sure that health services are there for those who need them the most. This is just an initial investment, the Government will ensure the health sector has the support and resources it needs to fight and contain COVID-19.

Approximately \$235 million of immediate funding includes:

Initiative	\$ million
Existing unfunded costs incurred to date	
Current committed costs against Public Health (isolation centre at Whangaparāoa etc)	3
Scale up public communications and support	
Public Health campaign across New Zealand including vulnerable groups via all media channels	10
Boosting the Healthline COVID-19 response	20
Continuity of care in the community	
Potential additional Ministry costs being incurred to meet ongoing responsibilities as well as housing MCDM	10
Boosting Public Health capacity (including helping to support contact tracing efforts)	40
Strengthening workforce capability across DHB provided services	30
Testing, and tracing cases	
Purchasing additional ventilated and non-ventilated ICU capacity (private and public)	32
Enhanced general practice support and implementing regional responses including Community Based Assessment Centres (CBAC) resourcing, equipment and logistics	50
Introduce a GP and Community Health clinical telehealth consultation service	20
Increasing ESR and other laboratory Covid-19 testing capacity	5
Boost the psychosocial response and recovery plan to mitigating the immediate and long-term psychosocial impact of COVID-19.	15
Total estimated costs	\$235m

The remaining funds are earmarked for future announcements as required, such as:

	\$m
Ensuring NZ has sufficient medicines, flu vaccines, facemasks and personal protective equipment (P) to allow people and critical health and disability staff protection – this is modelled on Australia’s costings and is largely driven by case definition (i.e. testing and need for PPE is linked to the definition for testing)	205

Enhanced primary care and community-based services including pharmacy, Aged Residential Care hospital beds, ambulance, supporting people staying at home	50
--	----

More information: For more on the Health response to COVID-19, and for advice for the public please refer to the [Ministry of Health's website](#).