

## Online survey of HealthPathways

- A survey on how general practitioners, practice nurses and hospital clinicians in Canterbury perceive HealthPathways was carried out during December 2013.
- Included 16 graded questions, 7 questions on website use, and 3 open questions on perceptions of HealthPathways.
- The questionnaire was based on the Technology Acceptance Model and was distributed using Survey Monkey™.

- Response rate

General practitioners	52%	n=249
Practice nurses	46%	n=72
Hospital clinicians	65%	n=43

## Times HealthPathways used each week

	0	1-5	6-15	16-25	26-35	>35
General practitioners	1%	19%	47%	22%	7%	4%
Practice nurses	1%	45%	48%	6%	0%	0%

**69% of GPs use HealthPathways between 6-25 times a week.  
11% of GPs use HealthPathways more than 25 times a week.**

## HealthPathways has changed my use of other online clinical resources?

	Increased	Decreased	No change
General practitioners	7%	69%	24%
Practice nurses	19%	65%	16%

# Responses to questions on clinical issues by general practice teams

Question	GPs	Practice nurses
HealthPathways has assisted in provision of more health care in the community?	88%	91%
The information on HealthPathways is of high quality?	96%	99%
HealthPathways is easy to use in general practice?	94%	96%
HealthPathways has made my job easier?	90%	96%
HealthPathways has improved the care I provide to my patients?	90%	97%
HealthPathways has encouraged me to refer patients I would have previously managed myself?	Yes 33% No 41%	57% 10%
HealthPathways increases the time I spend with each patient?	Yes 53% No 22%	38% 27%

## Responses to questions on personal experiences by general practice teams

Question	GPs	Practice nurses
HealthPathways has improved my relationship with patients?	Yes 31% No 20%	60% 10%
HealthPathways has improved my relationship with hospital clinicians?	Yes 57% No 14%	51% 9%
HealthPathways should be altered to provide structured decision support?	Yes 17% No 49%	35% 13%

## Analysis of GP data grouped according to age or location of practice

- Young doctors (<40 yr) had a more positive opinion of HealthPathways than older doctors.
- Young doctors found the website easier to use than older doctors.
- A greater proportion of older doctors compared with younger doctors considered the website increased the duration of a patient consultation.
- Rural GPs had more positive responses to HealthPathways than urban GPs, especially regarding the information provided for private referral options.

# Responses of hospital clinicians

Question	Agree
HealthPathways has improved general practice management prior to referral?	71%
HealthPathways has improved the overall quality of referrals?	69%
HealthPathways has provided more explicit information to help triage of referrals?	71%
The development and maintenance of HealthPathways has required a lot of effort from myself and/or my department?	78%
HealthPathways has improved the relationship between my department and general practice?	63%

# Responses to written questions in the survey

**“If a colleague from another region asked you about HealthPathways what general comment would you make?”**

Response	GPs	Practice nurses	Hospital clinicians
Recommend without qualification	77%	82%	58%
Recommend with qualification	16%	8%	14%
Negative comment	2%	0%	2%
No comment	5%	10%	26%

## Responses to written questions in the survey

**“Do you have any concerns about HealthPathways including the way it is developed and maintained?”**

Response	GPs	Practice nurses	Hospital clinicians
Website getting too big.	6%	-	2%
Time consuming. Increased workload for my health sector.	4%	-	16%
Website too rigid and prescriptive - Tick-box medicine.	3%	-	-
Concern regarding ongoing updates.	3%	-	-
Design and technology issues (search engine).	3%	4%	2%
Inadequate referencing.	2%	-	-



# Summary

- **HealthPathways was regarded very favourably by the majority of respondents to the survey.**
- **HealthPathways has achieved its objectives of providing easily accessible best practice guidance for general practice teams that is relevant to local services and resources.**
- **HealthPathways has contributed to fostering better working relationships between the primary and secondary healthcare sectors in Canterbury.**
- **HealthPathways has acted as both an online clinical resource and a change management tool to promote integration of healthcare delivery.**
- **Survey published in New Zealand Medical Journal 30<sup>th</sup> Jan 2015.  
Copies available from [brett.shand@cdhb.health.nz](mailto:brett.shand@cdhb.health.nz)**

# Proposed survey of general practice teams on the urinary incontinence pathway on HealthPathways

- ◆ Urinary incontinence is a common disorder that often represents a challenge for general practice teams.
- ◆ As part of ongoing development of the urinary incontinence pathway on HealthPathways we are planning to conduct an online survey of general practice teams on management strategies for urinary incontinence in women.
- ◆ The survey will be carried out in several regions in New Zealand and Australia.
- ◆ The responses to the survey questionnaire will be compared between regions with access to the urinary incontinence pathway (Christchurch) and regions without this access (Perth and Geelong).

## Details of questionnaire to be used in the survey

- ◆ 4 questions on diagnostic criteria for urinary incontinence.
- ◆ 6 questions on treatment options for urinary incontinence.
- ◆ 4 questions on resources used to obtain information on urinary incontinence.
- ◆ 1 question on demographic characteristics of respondents.
- ◆ The questionnaire will be distributed using SurveyMonkey™.

## Progress to date

- ◆ Ethical approval has been obtained to carryout the survey in both New Zealand and Australia.
- ◆ The wording of the questionnaire and number of general practice teams invited to participate in the survey has yet to be finalised.
- ◆ If your region is interested in participating in the survey please contact either Graham McGeoch [mcgeochg@gmail.com](mailto:mcgeochg@gmail.com) or Brett Shand [shandbrett@gmail.com](mailto:shandbrett@gmail.com)