

Healthy Helensville

Our vision: To be the healthiest rural community in New Zealand

Kaipara Medical Centre in good health

Another year has almost come and gone and it's been a particularly busy one for the team at the Kaipara Medical Centre.

The Kaipara Medical Centre has a unique ownership model with the community it serves also part-owning the practice. The main shareholders are the Helensville District Health Trust, Waitemata District Health Board and some of the centre's own long-serving GPs.

Here are some of the highlights of the last year:

- Investment in technology, especially a new phone system which has meant better access for patients.
- Significant time and cost to employ a new doctor which included going offshore to find the right person. Dr Anuj Gupta joined the centre in May from Singapore, increasing the team of doctors from five to six.



- This increase in doctors ensured that more appointments were available over the busier winter months to better match patient demand.
- Maori health care plans have been put in place that include partnering with other health organisations to deliver services off-site.

Looking ahead to 2017, one of the centre's key goals is to get 2000 patients enrolled in its online service **Manage My Health** which enables patients to

book appointments and order repeat prescriptions using a phone, tablet or PC. If you haven't signed up yet, ask about it at your next doctor's visit.

With a full quota of staff now on board, 2017 should mean more stability among both support staff and the medical team and that'll be welcome news for all patients.

Xmas Harvest Market

Make a dent in your Christmas shopping with a visit to the last South Kaipara Harvest Market of 2016. As well as the usual regular stallholders offering their locally grown produce and food items, we will have a number of local artisans and craftspeople selling their wares. See you at Te Whare Oranga o Parakai, Sunday 11 December 10am–1pm.

