

Te Korowai Whakaruruhau

Health, Safety and Wellbeing Service



A note from Angus

Tēna koutou,

Everyone is saddened by the multiple fatalities caused by the fire in the Wellington Loafers Lodge. The incident also highlights the importance of maintaining the integrity of our buildings and their fire-related systems, including the fire egress routes and evacuation procedures. Our buildings all have valid building warrants of fitness, indicating that the required maintenance and inspections are being carried out. We also test our evacuation procedures each semester to ensure they continue to be effective. However, these checks and balances – whilst providing good overall assurance – only guarantee our safety on the day they were observed: standards need ongoing work to maintain at a high level. We are all aware of the potential for tragedy when egress routes and fire escapes are blocked with unwanted items like broken furniture, or fire doors are propped open compromising fire cells.

It is timely to remind everyone that we all have a responsibility to ensure the safety of others is not impacted by our actions and we should act when we see something wrong. This is at the heart of manaakitanga and Taumata Teitei. We therefore request you to reinforce with your teams the important role they all have in the following areas:-

- All egress routes and doors should be clear at all times.
- Adhere to instructions on the fire/smoke doors, e.g. to keep them closed at all times.

- Check that smoke curtains, where fitted, are clear of obstructions such as furniture and planters which will prevent them from fully lowering.
- Never store flammable materials such as boxes, paper etc. near sources of heat e.g. switchboards, photocopiers etc.
- Ensure that there are plans in place to allow all occupants to safely exit premises in the event of an emergency.
- Report immediately via <https://www.staff.auckland.ac.nz/en/admin/property-services-admin/redirects/ssc/cleaning.html> any defects on fire-related systems or any other safety systems. This should be used to request repairs or maintenance.
- Report via Damstra [Reporting Health and Safety Incidents and Injuries - The University of Auckland](#) any other concerns re fire safety or the effectiveness of existing precautions, procedures or systems.
- Keep egress routes on team agendas as a discussion point.
- Keep fire safety on Health and Safety Committee agendas.



Angus Clark - Associate Director – HSW

Immunisation week

- It was great to see students and staff taking advantage of the FREE Flu Vaccination Pop Ups across the university. It is an opportunity to fend off a nasty bout of the Flu over the winter months.
- Campus Pharmacy is continuing to invite walk ins to their city campus pharmacy. Simply show your Campus Card or Staff ID to receive a FREE flu vaccine shot.
- For eligible staff and students requiring Covid Booster, MMR (measles, mumps rubella), Boostrix (whooping cough, tetanus, diphtheria) immunisation, these are all available at Campus Pharmacy. If you are not sure what you are entitled to, the pharmacy staff led by our wonderful Aula will be able to assist you.



- This year we have partnered with local pharmacies for our people based in Leigh Marine Lab (Matakana Pharmacy) and Tai Tokerau (Kensington Pharmacy) to provide flu vaccines paid for by the university. Same deal as Campus Pharmacy – just walk in, show your Campus Card or Staff ID and you are eligible.

Health Exposure Monitoring

Exposure monitoring measures and evaluates what our people are being exposed to while they are at work. Examples of personal exposure monitoring include Hearing & Lung function assessment



Keep an eye out for hearing and lung monitoring which will be scheduled in July. To make it easier on schedules a booking system will be used.

RSV

Not another university acronym - Respiratory Syncytial Virus which we often see outbreaks of in the winter months, it is highly infectious and risks people with compromised immune systems – so it is often hitting young children and older people hard. Antibiotics are not usually helpful as it is a virus.

How can you tell if you have it? A cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, head cold or loss of smell... sound familiar?. Both RSV and COVID are respiratory illnesses. It is spread through droplets from a sneeze or people touching their nose or mouth after touching a person with RSV or contaminated items.

Same old chestnut (but let's keep our eye on the ball, and stay healthy)

- Cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough and discard all dirty tissues
- Don't share food, eating or drinking utensils
- Use hand sanitiser or wash your hands regularly throughout the day
- Practice physical distancing if you are unwell
- AND stay at home if you are feeling unwell to stop the RSV spreading further.

ACC Accredited Employers Program Audit

Every year the University of Auckland is independently audited on behalf of ACC. The audit assesses and reviews injury claim management over the past 12 months via interviews with staff, management, and a selection of injury claimants. You may also see some workplace inspectors around the university. Work Aon (who we partner with to manage claims) also take part and are subject to additional reviews and ACC audits.

Injury Management will be audited this year (last year's audit looked at a wider H&S scope).

It is taking place mid-July so please respond to any questions and be available if we need you. Find information here: [Injury management - The University of Auckland](#)



Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

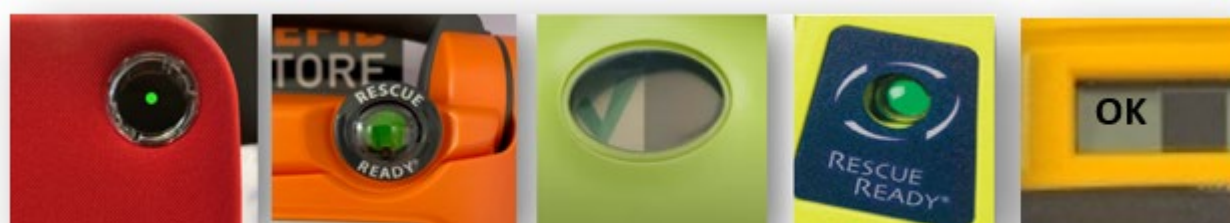
This is the portable device that delivers a shock to restart the heart and restores its natural rhythm. You will see them dotted around the university and are commonly found in supermarkets, medical centres and education facilities.



Access the www.aedlocation.co.nz site to add your AED to the map or to see where the closest AED to you is. The mobile UoA ALERT app also provides a quick link to the site.

How do I know the AED in our workplace is good to go when we need it?

The green tick, button, light or tick indicates that the AED is charged and ready to go.



Add it to your team meeting agenda and remember to keep an eye the readiness of your AED.

If you need signage, replacements pads or batteries go here: [First aid kits and defibrillators - The University of Auckland](#) Still unsure, don't leave it to chance? Drop the HSW team an email here: hsw@auckland.ac.nz

And while we are here ... a reminder to everyone on campus to download the UoA ALERT app

The app gives you direct and mobile access to:

- Safety notifications
- Emergency Contacts
- Safety Links
- Notification History
- Emergency Plans
- Support Resources
- Campus Maps



What are we discussing in the HSW team?

- Nicholas Jones (NZH) is continuing to investigate silicosis , a respiratory disease caused by dust created from stonemasonry, tunnelling and concreting, 20 May 2023. ['Something is wrong': The forgotten disease that's become a silent killer - NZ Herald.](#)
- We are also watching with interest findings relating to the Loafer's Lodge fire with special focus on potential building regulation changes in relation to sprinklers. [Why were there no sprinklers in Loafer's Lodge, Wellington? | Stuff.co.nz](#) due to the age of the building sprinklers were not a legal requirement.

This terrible tragedy is a reminder to everyone especially those in accommodation halls whatever time of night the fire evacuation siren goes off.



**EVERYONE OUT
EVERY TIME**

HSW Training coming up

Reducing the risk of injuries from **moving and handling** across the university is important. This new course which will enable attendees to make safe and efficient decisions when faced with handling risk.

- Cause and effect of injury
- Health & Safety obligations in practice
- Injury prevention measures
- Principles of safe handling
- Applying safe handling technique to work tasks
- Risk assessment - what, when and how
- Action plans for handling issues
- Safe handling techniques
- Warm ups and pre and post activity stretches

We need 7 attendees to schedule a moving and handling class and there are some criteria for registration. Read about it and drop us an email. [Moving and Handling Training \(Manual Handling\) \(csod.com\)](#)

- [Risk Assessment](#) 14 June (morning session)
- [Health and Safety: Role of a Leader and Manager](#) 7 June (3 hours)
- [Fire Safety and Warden Training](#) Pick a time and location! (90 minutes)
 - B902.402 Eng faculty (Newmarket) Thu, 15 Jun 2023, 10:00 - 11:30
 - B260.321 OGGB Mon, 17 Jul 2023, 10:00 - 11:30
 - B405-222 Eng faculty (City) Thu, 24 Aug 2023, 10:00 - 11:30
 - B405-222 Eng faculty (City) Wed, 20 Sept 2023, 10:00 - 11:30
 - B902.402 Eng faculty (Newmarket) Thu, 19 Oct 2023, 10:00 - 11:30
 - B260.325 OGGB Mon, 13 Nov 2023, 10:00 - 11:30

- [Comprehensive First Aid Course \(with Online Pre-Learning\)](#) 22 June or 12 July (1 day)
- [First Aid Refresher](#) 21 June & 13 July (1 day)
- [Health and Safety Representative Training: Stage 1](#) 12&13 October (2 days)
- [Health and Safety Representative Training: Stage 2](#) 26&27 May (2 days)
- [Mental Health 101 \(MH101\)](#) 28 June (1 day)
- [Chemical Safety Management in Laboratories](#) 22 November (3 Hours)
- [DLP Containment Workshop](#) 22 June (3 hours)

Online Courses

- [Creating Health and Safety Awareness](#) 20 minutes
- [Health and Safety Awareness for Triage Co-ordinators](#) 15 minutes
- [Health and Safety Awareness for Line Managers / Academic Leaders](#) 20 minutes



Tūngia te ururua, kia tupu whakaritorito te tupu o te harakeke

Clear the undergrowth so that the new shoots of the flax will grow
