

# "Health for All" in Aotearoa: How can we achieve the vision?

**This symposium will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Alma-Ata Declaration on Primary Health Care and discuss what actions we need to take in the next thirty years to achieve the vision of "Health for All".**

**Thursday 11 and  
Friday 12 September 2008**

The symposium is geared at the primary care sector, and particularly those involved in implementing the 2001 Primary Health Care Strategy, whether as practitioners, funders or policymakers. It will hold interest for GPs, nurses and other practitioners within PHOs, those involved in primary care funding and planning within DHBs, and policymakers at regional and national levels. It will also be of interest to students and practitioners of public health.

*(A reduced registration fee is available to students.)*



## Contributions:

Organisations are invited to contribute a poster or a display, to describe their primary health care work. Alternatively, organisations can contribute a description in writing, of no more than one A4 page, which could be included in the symposium report, to be distributed in the sector.

If you wish to make a contribution of a poster, display or written piece, please contact Alex MacMillan at [a.macmillan@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:a.macmillan@auckland.ac.nz) by Monday 18 August 2008.

## Background

This symposium is occurring on the 30th anniversary of the joint statement from the First International Assembly on Primary Health Care sponsored by the World Health Organization and UNICEF, and held in 1978 in Alma-Ata, USSR (now Kazakhstan). That statement, known as the Alma-Ata Declaration on Primary Health Care (WHO & UNICEF, 1978), was endorsed by representatives from New Zealand and those of over 130 other nations. The Declaration identified equity as a core value in health, one which underpins comprehensive primary health care. It also identified community participation and action on the determinants of health as key approaches for achieving health equity and reducing inequalities in health.

This symposium will engage participants in reflecting on the practice of comprehensive primary health care, as outlined in the Alma Ata Declaration, in light of the implementation of the New Zealand Primary Health Care Strategy (2001). It will provide an opportunity to celebrate some of our primary health care successes in Aotearoa New Zealand, and to identify areas for further improvements. It will also offer an opportunity for participants to consider the global context of primary health care.

[www.cce.auckland.ac.nz/healthforall](http://www.cce.auckland.ac.nz/healthforall)

## Symposium Date

### Thursday 11 September

Welcome reception and first session:  
5pm - 9pm

### Friday 12 September

Sessions: 8:30am - 5:30pm

## Venue

The Atrium, Level 2  
School of Population Health  
The University of Auckland  
Tamaki Campus, Morrin Road  
Glen Innes, Auckland

## Cost

(GST included)

### Full fee

\$180

### Earlybird enrolments

*(before 8 August 2008)*

\$162

### (Students)

\$108

## To enrol

[www.cce.auckland.ac.nz/healthforall](http://www.cce.auckland.ac.nz/healthforall)

## Registration Enquiries

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## Content Enquiries

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**THE UNIVERSITY  
OF AUCKLAND**

**FACULTY OF MEDICAL  
AND HEALTH SCIENCES**

School of Population Health



## The School of Population Health:

The school was established in 2003 within the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences of The University of Auckland to work with others to provide the knowledge and skills needed to improve the health of all New Zealanders.

The School is fully contained in a purpose-built space on the Tamaki Campus of The University of Auckland. While the primary focus lies on health areas of special interest and significance for Auckland and New Zealand, the School has strong links internationally and in particular with researchers and health providers around the Pacific.

The School's core activities include:

- Providing undergraduate and postgraduate education and training opportunities to the health workforce
- Investigating the major causes of ill-health and health inequalities in New Zealand
- Developing and testing better means of preventing disease, disability and injury
- Examining the provision of health care and exploring ways in which health systems can be strengthened
- Working with the health workforce to find ways of gaining better health outcomes for populations
- Working with communities to enable them to develop resources and strategies to improve their health and well-being

## Programme

The symposium will be structured as an opening reception with a keynote address on the first evening, followed by a day of presentations and workshops, under three major headings:

1. **Equity/reducing inequalities in health**
2. **Community participation in primary health care**
3. **Primary health care action on the social determinants of health**

Each of these major sessions will include a clinical component in the presentations offered, with the view of encouraging participants to consider what each topic means for the practice of primary health care.

The agenda for the symposium is to come to a collective understanding of how we can achieve improved equity through primary health care in Aotearoa NZ.

Thursday 11 September	
5 pm	<b>Welcome reception and registration</b> Finger food available
6pm	<b>Powhiri and formal welcome</b>
7pm	<b>Official opening of Symposium</b> The Director General of Health, Mr Stephen McKernan
7.30 - 9pm	<b>Session 1: Remembering the Past – The Alma-Ata Declaration on PHC</b> Dr George Salmond Dr Halfdan Mahler (by videoconference)  Coffee, tea and desert available
Friday 12 September	
8.30am	<b>Introduction to day</b>
8.45am	<b>Session 2: Equity in Health</b> Dr Don Matheson and invited speakers
11am	<b>Session 3: Community participation in primary health care</b> Dr Pat Neuwelt and invited speakers
12.30 - 1.30pm	<b>Lunch</b>
1.30pm	<b>Session 4: Primary health care action on the social determinants of health</b> Professor Fran Baum and invited speakers
3pm	<b>Session 5: What can we do to achieve improved health equity through primary health care in Aotearoa?</b> Small group discussions followed by facilitated feedback to the whole group, with action points identified.
5.15pm	<b>Closing</b>



## Guest Speakers

Keynote speakers for the symposium are national and international leaders in primary health care, including the following:

### Dr Halfdan Mahler

Dr. Halfdan Mahler, former Director General of the World Health Organization, was re-elected for two successive five-year terms, in 1978 and 1983 respectively. Under Dr Mahler, in 1978 the Thirty-second World Health Assembly launched the Global Strategy for Health for All by the Year 2000. He was head of WHO at the original Alma-Ata conference, and has played a key role in re-invigorating Primary Health Care (PHC) on the global arena in recent years, such as key note speeches at major regional conferences in South America and Asia (Buenos Aires, Beijing) in 2007. He particularly emphasises the importance of addressing inequalities as an underlying goal of improving the health of populations. Despite his age, Mahler still travels the world advocating for innovation in health services through community engagement.

(NOTE: We expect that Dr. Mahler will join us by videoconference from Geneva.)

### Professor Fran Baum

Fran Baum is Head of Department and Professor of Public Health at Flinders University in Adelaide, Foundation Director of the South Australian Community Health Research Unit and the Co-Chair of the Global Steering Council of the People's Health Movement – a global network of health activists. She is a Commissioner for the Commission on the Social Determinants of Health established by the World Health Organization in 2005. She is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Social Science and of the National Health Promotion Association. She is also a past National President and Life Member of the Public Health Association of Australia.

Professor Baum is one of Australia's leading researchers on the social and economic determinants of health. In 2008 she was awarded an Australian Research Council Federation Fellowship which will enable her to establish an institute focusing on the social determinants of health inequity. Her numerous publications relate to social and economic determinants of health, including Aboriginal people's health, health inequities, research and evaluation in community health and primary health care, theories of health promotion, Healthy Cities, social capital and health promotion, and the political economy of health. Her text book *The New Public Health* (3rd edition published in Jan 2008 Oxford University Press) is widely used as a core public health text.

### Dr George Salmond

George Salmond is a New Zealand trained public health physician whose areas of particular interest include primary health care, community health development, mental health, aged care and health workforce development. He was one of New Zealand's representatives at the First International Assembly on Primary Health Care sponsored by WHO and UNICEF in Alma-Ata, USSR (now Kazakhstan) in 1978.

Dr. Salmond worked as a health services researcher and planner in the Department of Health for more than a decade. He was the Director-General of Health (1986 –91). He was Professor and Foundation Director of the university-based Health Services Research Centre in Wellington 1993-1999. Currently he is working as a public health consultant, researcher and advocate. He is active in a number of third sector organisations including Porirua Healthlinks, Health Care Aotearoa, Wise Te Pou and Blueprint Trusts, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine, and the Public Health Association of New Zealand.

### Dr Don Matheson

Don Matheson is a public health physician with an interest in primary health care, health equity, the social determinants of health, and health systems. In his early career he worked in Zimbabwe, assisting in the establishment of primary health care services in a remote rural area on the border with Mozambique. In New Zealand he worked with community and union organisation to establish the Newtown Union Health Services, and a national network of community controlled primary health organisations, now known as Health Care

Aotearoa. In the 1990s he worked on the East Coast of the North Island with local hapu to establish a rural Maori primary health care service, Ngati Porou Hauora. From 2000 till 2007 he was Deputy Director General of Public Health for the New Zealand Ministry of Health, where he was manager responsible for the New Zealand Health Strategy. Since mid 2007 he has focused on global public health issues, as Director of International Relations for the Ministry of Health in NZ, and more recently as regional advisor on non-communicable diseases for the World Health Organisation Western Pacific Region.

### Dr Pat Neuwelt

Pat Neuwelt is a general practitioner and public health physician, currently working as a senior lecturer in public health at the School of Population Health, University of Auckland. Pat has worked in primary care with disadvantaged communities in both Canada and New Zealand. Her professional interests include the application of a health promotion approaches to the delivery of health care and health development for vulnerable groups through primary health care. Pat is the author of *Community Participation Toolkit – A resource for primary health organisations* (published by Steele-Roberts, 2007), published from her PhD research on that topic.

### Other confirmed speakers

- Representatives of the Quality Board of the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners
- Representatives of Health Care Aotearoa (national primary health care network)



