

# New Zealand Female Pelvic Mesh Service

Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora has established a national service to support and care for women suffering from health complications after pelvic mesh surgery.

Our specialist team is committed to caring for women respectfully, transparently and in a supportive environment.

## About our service

A Health Navigator is available to support you every step of the way.

Treatment and care options will be discussed with you. The Service will work with you to develop your individual treatment plan, and treatment will only be provided if you agree.

Health New Zealand acknowledges the pain and harm caused to women who have experienced complications as a result of pelvic mesh surgery. Designed in partnership with mesh harmed consumers, Māori and Pacific health representatives, as well as clinicians.

## Our Team

Our team of specialists in assessing, treating, supporting and caring for women who have health issues following pelvic mesh surgery includes a wide range of roles, such as credentialled surgeons, nurses, psychologist, social worker, occupational therapist, dietitian, health navigator and pharmacist.

## Location and Travel

This nation-wide service is available in two centres – one in Ōtautahi (Christchurch) and the other in Tamaki Makaurau (Auckland).

Women with health problems that may be related to pelvic surgical mesh can access this service from anywhere in New Zealand.

Travel and accommodation support may be available for you. Your Health Navigator will be able to share more information about this, how to access it and what it covers.

## How to access the service

After your family doctor, nurse practitioner, specialist or physiotherapist refers you to the Service, we will contact you to set up a meeting with a Nurse Specialist or Health Navigator.

This service is for women who experience complications from mesh inserted as part of treatment for Stress Urinary Incontinence or Pelvic Organ Prolapse. It does not cover women affected by mesh used for other conditions, or men. You need to be eligible for publicly funded health services, or ACC Treatment Injury cover.

