

Kia ora koutou,

We are introducing a six-monthly E-pānui. The aim of these updates will be way to keep you connected and informed, to share key insights, resources, and provide an update on the VIP from the leadership team. More content will be included in future editions, but for now, this month's newsletter focuses on updating you to the AUT team working with us on the Violence Intervention programme.

We want to acknowledge the hard mahi happening across the motu to prevent and manage the effects of family violence, sexual violence and child protection. Your dedication is making a difference to whānau, and we remain committed to supporting this kaupapa together.

As always, we'd love to hear your thoughts on this e-pānui. Let us know if there are topics you would like covered. You can email us at fvsv@tewhatauora.govt.nz and let's keep the kōrero flowing!

Ngā mihi nui,
Health NZ Family Violence, Sexual Violence, Child Protection team.

The AUT Team

The AUT team support reflection and analysis of VIP structures, processes, and outcomes. Their goal is to inform improvements in how the health system responds to the needs of women, children, and whānau at risk of family violence.

The AUT mahi is guided by our **uaratanga (values)** and **tikanga (actions)** — available at <https://www.aut.ac.nz/vipevaluation>.

Who is on the team

- **Jane Koziol-McLain** (Centre for Interdisciplinary Trauma Research, AUT) Tangata Tiriti VIP Evaluation Lead
- **Sarah Herbert** (Ngāti kahu ki Whangaroa) Tangata Whenua VIP Evaluation Lead
- **Sarah Ngawati** (Ngāti Kahungunu), Māori responsiveness
- **Tepora Pukepuke** (Whakatōhea Ngāi Tahu), Māori responsiveness
- **Kathy Lowe** Researcher
- **Nick Garrett** (Ngāti Maniapoto), Biostatistician
- **Deepika Sonia** Data Manager
- **Claudia Mansell** Research Administrator
- **James Case** Software engineer for snapshot

Learn more about us in the [2024 evaluation update](#).

What Do AUT do (Ā mātou mahi)

The team support the VIP programme through a comprehensive suite of evaluation activities that provide insight into how the programme is functioning across New Zealand. These activities help to ensure accountability and inform policy and practice decisions at local, regional, and national levels. Several evaluation tools have been employed to do this, such as:

- System Infrastructure Delphi Tool – to assess foundational systems
- Clinical Practice Snapshot Audits – to evaluate frontline practice
- Model for Improvement: Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) Cycles – to support iterative quality improvement.
- Site Visits and Qualitative Interviews – to gather in-depth, contextual insights from programme participants and stakeholders.

Their upcoming 2021–2024 evaluation report (due in the coming months) integrates findings from Qualitative interviews conducted in 2021, Delphi tool assessments completed in 2022, and Snapshot audits scheduled for 2024.

These data sources collectively provide a robust picture of programme implementation and impact, guiding continuous improvement and strategic decision-making.

Priorities for 2025-2026

In collaboration with the Health New Zealand/Te Whatu Ora family violence whānau wellbeing service development team (Kathy and Abbie), AUT are focusing on two key activities this contract period (July 2025 – June 2026):

1. **Measuring system infrastructure** using the Delphi audit
2. **Exploring digital family violence data collection**

Delphi Infrastructure Audit

The Delphi Tool is an interactive Excel workbook that measures institutional health system support for responsiveness to family violence. It measures 56 indicators across nine programme domains, with scores that range from 0 to 100.

Improvements based on your feedback in 2025 have included refining measurement criteria, incorporating coordinator feedback from previous audits, and enhancing the tool's precision and usability.

What's next? Districts will complete a self-assessment using the Delphi tool, followed by a site visit for independent review and reciprocal learning.

Key Dates for this are **1 October 2025**: Updated Delphi tool released; and **15 December 2025**: Self-audit submissions due.

Support will be provided via Online webinars, Written instructions, and Tuakana Teina support for new coordinators.

External audits will occur **December 2025 - March 2026**, with on-site visits to review submissions and share learning.

Digital Family Violence Health Data

Some districts already collect electronic routine enquiry and child protection data. This data is powerful for monitoring service delivery and informing improvements.

Until a national digital system is in place, we are reliant on manual clinical record reviews (e.g., Snapshot audit).

To develop plans for a standardise national digital data system, we will work closely with district and national Te Whatu Ora family

violence and business intelligence teams. We will begin with a survey to see what digital data is currently available, then map the path of data from the clinical encounter to data depositories and analysis. Māori leadership over Māori data will be essential to ensure meaningful collection and interpretation.

A digital data survey will be distributed to districts during **August – September 2025** to explore current digital VIP data availability and data pathways.

VIP Snapshot Audit and Model for Improvement

While not required for the 2025–2026 period, the AUT team are happy to support districts that choose to include the following evaluation activities:

- Snapshot Clinical Audits – to assess current practice and identify areas for improvement.
- Model for Improvement (Plan-Do-Study-Act cycles) – to support continuous quality improvement through rapid, iterative testing and learning.

They welcome the opportunity to assist with planning or implementation as part of your district's commitment to the VIP programme.

The snapshot clinical audit captures data on child protection for children under two presenting to the emergency department, and intimate partner violence for women in six targeted services:

Domain	Assessment	Identification	Response
Child Protection	Child protection checklist	Concern Identified	Specialist consultation
Intimate Partner Violence	Routine enquiry	Disclosure	Specialist referral

The Model for Improvement is a hands-on opportunity for coordinators to test quick, creative change ideas using Plan-Do-Study-Act cycles to strengthen VIP delivery.

Learn more at <https://www.aut.ac.nz/vipevaluation>.

Reach out if you'd like to use these tools in your district (Email vip-eval@aut.ac.nz).