



New Zealand

Last updated 7th October 2025

New Zealand became an Associated Country in July 2023 and has been actively participating in a wide range of EU programmes. The engagement is managed through the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). MBIE provides leadership through the appointment of National Contact Points and in Europe is led by a senior Science Counsellor based in Brussels.

New Zealand is pleased to have joined the Pandemic Preparedness programme and has been active in the BE READY initiative. BE READY coordination is managed on behalf of the New Zealand Government by the Ministry of Health and the Medical Research Institute of New Zealand (MRINZ). To add or update information email: alex.semprini@mrinz.ac.nz

More broadly Pandemic Preparedness is led by the Public Health Agency – an agency within the Ministry of Health.

R&I Policies and Strategies *The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly*

Country has a dedicated strategy for research and innovation related to pandemic threat? No

Country has an open science portal with information on publicly financed scientific research? Yes

R&I portal: <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/research-and-data>

Country has R&I webpage on: COVID-19

Website open science/open data initiative with respect to pandemic threats:

Name	URL	Short description
COVID-19 and National Immunisation Programme research projects	https://www.health.govt.nz/statistics-research/research/health-research-and-innovation-system-leadership/covid-19-and-immunisation-projects	Funded COVID-19 research project descriptions and reports.
COVID-19 data and statistics	https://www.tewhatauora.govt.nz/for-health-professionals/data-and-statistics/covid-19-data	Up to date COVID-19 data and statistics across Aotearoa New Zealand

Country has coordinating structures to link public health needs and research needs? Yes

<https://www.who.int/westernpacific>

<https://www.health.govt.nz/about-us/organisation-and-leadership/public-health-agency>

R&I Infrastructures and initiatives The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly

NZ has the following research infrastructure for infectious diseases and outbreaks available, or in development for research on pathogens with high pandemic and/ or epidemic potential:

Name Infrastructure/ initiative	Type	URL	Max Capacity	Available to academia/ industry	Open to other research communities
Aotearoa Clinical Trials	Clinical trials	www.aotearoatrials.nz		Academia; Industry; Government; International; Other	Yes
Australia-Aotearoa Consortium for Epidemic Forecasting and Analytics	Researcher and public health agency partnership	https://acefa-hubs.github.io			
Awanui Labs	AMR and antibiotic consumption Databank Genomic surveillance of hospital associated pathogens	www.awanuilabs.co.nz			
Biovaleo Limited	Contract Research Organisation	www.biovaleo.com			
Canterbury Health Laboratories	Cytometry facility PC3 Laboratory Measles Reference Laboratory	www.chl.co.nz/services		Academia; Government	Upon request
CIRCAN Children's Inpatient Research Collaborative Australia NZ	Research collaborative	www.circan.org		Academia; Other	Yes
Estendart Research	Veterinary clinical trials GLP facility	www.ercnz.com			
Genomics Aotearoa	National consortium	https://www.genomics-aotearoa.org.nz/		Academia; Industry; Government; International; Other	Upon request
Harvest Integrated Research Organisation (HiRO)	Contract Research Organisation (NZ arm)	www.en.harvestiro.com		Academia; Industry; Government; International; Other	
ICU REMAP CAP network	Clinical Trials	www.mrinz.ac.nz	Part of global network	Yes	Yes
Infectious disease modelling Aotearoa	Network			Academia; Industry; Government; International;	Upon request
Inzight Analytics Limited	Data services	www.inzight.co.nz			
Malaghan Institute of Medical Research	Vaccine development GMP laboratory Hugh Green Technology Centre	www.malaghan.org.nz			
Moana Connect	Pasifika research organisation	www.moanaconnect.co.nz			
MRINZ	Clinical trials REMAP-CAP (NZ lead) Pharmacy Research Network (Community, full service decentralised RCT, sample networks)	www.mrinz.ac.nz		Yes	Yes

NZ Institute of Public Health and Forensic Science	Wastewater surveillance: systems (municipal/air travel/buildings/); data repository; Modelling; Genomic sequencing Reference Laboratory COVID-19 Biobank Surveillance platform SHIVERS (Southern Hemisphere Influenza, Vaccine Effectiveness Research and Surveillance) Rapid molecular diagnostics programme	www.github.com/ESR-NZ/covid_in_wastewater www.poops.nz www.phfscience.nz/expertise/genomics www.phfscience.nz/about-our-laboratories www.phfscience.nz/covid-19-biobank www.phfscience.nz/expertise/infectious-disease/infectious-disease-intelligence-surveillance www.phfscience.nz/news-publications/from-silent-spreaders-to-icu-next-stage-of-groundbreaking-nz-led-study-probes-how-flu-affects-people-so-differently		Academia; Industry; Government; International; Other	Yes
NZCR	Clinical trials	www.nzcr.com			
One Health Aotearoa	Infectious disease alliance	www.onehealth.org.nz			
Optimal Clinical Trials	Clinical trials	www.optimalclinicaltrials.com	3 units across New Zealand + NZCR (2 inpatient clinical trials units)	Industry; Other	Upon request
Otago University	Rift Valley Fever Epidemiology and Modelling to Inform Vaccine Efficacy Trials (REMIT) Otago Global Health Institute Health Protection Aotearoa Research Centre (HPARC) The Infection Group Vaccine formulation and evaluation platform Pathogen genomics laboratory	www.cepi.net/rift-valley-fever www.otago.ac.nz/global-health www.otago.ac.nz/wellington/research/groups/research-groups-in-the-department-of-public-health/health-protection-aotearoa-research-centre https://www.otago.ac.nz/christchurch/infection-group https://www.otago.ac.nz/pharmacy/research/facilities www.otago.ac.nz/microbiology-and-immunology		Academia; Industry; Government; International; Other	
Pacific Clinical Research and Momentum Clinical Research	Clinical trials unit	www.momentumclinicalresearch.co.nz www.pcrn.co.nz		Industry	Yes
PPD	Contract Research Organisation (NZ arm)	www.ppd.com			
Public Health Communication Centre Aotearoa (PHCC)	Communications centre	www.phcc.org.nz		Academia	Yes
RNA Platform	National consortium	www.wgtn.ac.nz/ferrier/rnaplatform		Academia; Industry; Government; International; Other	Upon request

Statistics NZ	Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI)	www.stats.govt.nz/integrated-data/integrated-data-infrastructure		Academia; Industry; Government; International; Other	Upon request
Te Niwha	Infectious disease platform	www.teniwha.com			
Te Whatu Ora	National Telehealth service Respiratory Clinical Leads Network NZ Bug Network (Infectious disease clinicians) ARROW NZ (Paediatric network)	www.tewhatauora.govt.nz/health-services/telehealth		Government	Yes

Is your country/ region/ institution supporting participation to one of the ESFRI (<https://www.esfri.eu/>) initiatives relevant for infectious diseases?

- ECRIN (MRINZ currently undergoing data certification audit and application to become an ECRIN expert Clinical Trials Unit)

Is your country/region/institution engaged with any open science/open data initiative with respect to pandemic threats such as COVID-19 open data?

- No

Is your country involved in a website network of clinical trials (e.g. to facilitate the access to clinical trials)?

- European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network: <https://ecrin.org>
- REMAP-CAP network: <https://www.remapcap.org/>
- Various clinical trial networks (see infrastructure table above)

Budget mobilisation mechanisms and funding sources The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly

Basic Research

<https://www.hrc.govt.nz/>

<https://www.royalsociety.org.nz> (blue skies)

Funding accessible for industry?

No

Source of funding

Public (research) agencies; Private industries/ philanthropic; Non-profit organisation

Applied Research

[mbie.govt.nz](https://www.mbie.govt.nz)

Funding accessible for industry?

No

Source of funding

Public (research) agencies; Private industries/ philanthropic; Non-profit organisation

Translational Research

<https://www.hrc.govt.nz/>

Funding accessible for industry?

No

Source of funding

Public (research) agencies; Private industries/ philanthropic; Non-profit organisation

Clinical Research (in general)

<https://www.hrc.govt.nz/>

Funding accessible for industry?

No

Source of funding

Public (research) agencies; Private industries/ philanthropic; Non-profit organisation

Phase funded?

Phase 1; Phase 2; Phase 3; Phase 4

Clinical Research (in pandemic phase)

<https://www.hrc.govt.nz/>

Funding accessible for industry?

No

Source of funding

Public (research) agencies; Private industries/ philanthropic; Non-profit organisation

Phase funded?

Phase 1; Phase 2; Phase 3; Phase 4

Innovation Projects

<https://www.hrc.govt.nz/>

Funding accessible industry?

Yes

Source of funding

Public (research) agencies; Private industries/ philanthropic;

Flexible funding possible, accessible for industry, possible during crisis (bespoke initiatives only).

New Zealand has been an active participant in international clinical trials during the pandemic but systems and processes including dedicated funding are immature.

Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) funds infectious disease focused research via the RNA development and Te Niwha platforms:

1. <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/science-and-technology/science-and-innovation/funding-information-and-opportunities/investment-funds/strategic-science-investment-fund/ssif-funded-programmes/ribonucleic-acid-rna-development-platform>
2. www.wgtn.ac.nz/ferrier/rnaplatform
3. <https://www.teniwha.com/>

R&I actors, authorities and activated processes that are activated in case of a health threat

The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly

- ministries involved in case of an outbreak;
- mobilisation processes of research forces;
- (existing) national or regional structures that advise governments on R&I during emergencies;
- administrative procedures to diminish the administrative burden for researchers and funding administrations;
- assessment of research outputs produced during a crisis;
- mechanisms to identify promising therapies or medical products for pandemic preparedness that are in the pipeline;
- international scientific collaboration in case of an outbreak

Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora	The New Zealand health care system	www.tewhatauora.govt.nz/
Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC)	HRC advises the Minister of Health on national health research policy, gives advice of health research priorities for New Zealand, initiates and supports health research and fosters the recruitment, training and retention of health researchers in New Zealand	www.hrc.govt.nz
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)	MBIE manages New Zealand’s skills, science and innovation systems and funds applied research.	https://www.mbie.govt.nz/
Ministry of Health (MoH)	MoH monitors, regulates and advises government on health priorities and policy.	https://www.health.govt.nz/
New Zealand Institute for Public Health and Forensic Science (PHF Science)	PHF Science (Institute of Environmental Science and Research ESR- till July 2025) is responsible for disease surveillance, addressing global challenges such as pandemic preparedness, antimicrobial resistance and the health and wellbeing impacts of climate change. PHF Science hosts New Zealand's national reference laboratory, coordinates infectious disease intelligence and surveillance and is a WHO National Influenza Centre.	https://www.phfscience.nz/
Pharmac - Te Pātaka Whaioranga	PHARMAC is the government agency that decides which medicine and related products are funded in New Zealand.	https://www.pharmac.govt.nz/
Public Health Agency (PHA) - Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui	The PHA is responsible for population and public health initiatives across New Zealand.	https://www.health.govt.nz/about-us/organisation-and-leadership/public-health-agency
Various institutions, collaborations and networks	See R&I infrastructures table above	

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BE READY PLUS is responding to the call: HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-17 “Pandemic preparedness and response: Maintaining and enhancing the preparatory work for a co-funded European partnership for pandemic” under grant agreement 101195079. Starting date: 01.01.2025. | End Date 31.12.2025

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