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## Storming the Bastille - Breaking down barriers to equity for tamariki with Down Syndrome

**Presented by:**

**Dr. Rosemary Marks, Developmental Paediatrician (Retired)**

→ **12pm - 12.30pm | Tuesday 14 July, 2026 | [Hosted on Teams](#)**

This presentation explores the development of the Aotearoa New Zealand Down Syndrome Clinical Guidance, including the process we followed in working towards equitable outcomes for tamariki.

Dr Rosemary Marks, Developmental Paediatrician (Retired), will deliver the session. The session will explore how we approached the challenge of providing concise evidence based advice to clinicians, while maintaining a focus on equity. The importance of shared decision making with whānau and tamariki will be a central theme.

Attendees will be introduced to the insights that we learned from issues we encountered during the process. We hope that these will be of use to people tackling other projects. A handout will be provided, including links to Aotearoa New Zealand and international information sources and consumer organisations to support further exploration.

### **Links to pre-reading:**

[Down Syndrome \(Trisomy 21\) overview and general principles - Starship](#)

[Down Syndrome In Children - KidsHealth](#)

### **About the Speaker:**

**Dr Rosemary Marks** trained in Paediatrics in Auckland and the United Kingdom and has worked in Developmental Paediatrics since 1982. Since 2020, she has led the Down Syndrome Clinical Guidance workstream, supporting the development of accessible, high-quality information for health professionals working with children and young people with Down syndrome. She has also contributed to significant updates of whānau-facing information on the KidsHealth website.

Access the session here



## Contact us

If you would like to join our mailing list, have a suggestion for a topic or are interested in presenting at one of our workshops, **[please get in touch](#)**.

For any technical issues or queries please reach out to the Neurodevelopment Network Project Coordinator, Kati Wilson, by email to [neurodevelopment@paediatrics.org.nz](mailto:neurodevelopment@paediatrics.org.nz) or phone: 021 237 9903.