

Vā

Anae (2007, 2005)

Te Tāhū Hauora
Health Quality & Safety
Commission



What does it mean?

The vā describes the spatial and relational context in which relationships unfold.

With le vā, relationships are given time and space and are valued so that all involved may benefit.

Relational spaces are prioritised to maintain sacred space, harmony and balance.

Our vā or relationship with others defines us.

Le vā is also about how we are within the space; encompassing principles such as reciprocity, respect, and mutual trust.



Teu le vā - establishing and/or repairing the space/relationship



Tausi le vā - maintaining and progressing the space/relationship



Soli le vā - the space that needs work or has been trampled and will have to be addressed



How do we make space for communities to ensure balanced reciprocity of giving and taking?

How do you/your team reflect on the quality of your relationships?

What structures/mechanisms could ensure that health care staff and professionals are 'on tap' as resources versus 'on top' as deciders?

Anae M. 2005. Teu le va: 'New' directions in thinking about doing Pacific health research in New Zealand. Paper presented at the Centre for Pacific Studies, University of Auckland Pacific Scholars Postgraduate Seminar Series.

Anae M. 2007. Teu le va: Research that could make a difference to Pasifika schooling in New Zealand. Paper commissioned by the Ministry of Education and presented at the joint NZARE/Ministry of Education symposium 'Is your research making a difference to Pasifika education?' in Wellington.