

# Consultation outcome summary

## Practising certificate endorsements

*As at 9 September 2025*

### Introduction

1. Te Poari Ringa Hangarau Iraruke | The Medical Radiation Technologist's Board (the Board) is responsible for protecting the health and safety of New Zealanders by ensuring practitioners registered in the profession of medical imaging and radiation therapy are competent and fit to practise.
2. The Board recently reviewed its policy for how we recognise graduates who complete a programme of education that enables them to practise in related areas outside their scope. The proposed changes were put out for consultation.
3. Consultation occurred in several areas:
  - a. Using an endorsement as a mechanism for having a practitioner's additional education recognised on their practising certificate.
  - b. Ensuring that the public is aware of a practitioner's qualifications and competence to perform PET-CT.

### Outcome

Following review of the feedback received the Board has updated the scope of practice to describe the profession with reference to endorsements. This will ensure that those who have completed the PET-CT programme and can perform this role have this noted on their practising certificate.

### Consultation results

There was a total of 101 respondents to the practising certificates policy consultation which ran from 28 March 2025 – 2 May 2025. This included 99 individuals and two organisations.

The majority (86%) of respondents agreed with there being a simple way of having additional education recognised on a practising certificate, and 90% of respondents agreed that this could

be an endorsement for the PET-CT programme - 82% of respondents agree with the Board using endorsements to recognise additional qualifications.

Most (63%) respondents also agreed that the use of endorsements would protect the public. Of those who did not agree with the proposals an average of 6% disagreed with the remainder of the respondents indicating they were unsure.

Practitioners who supported the proposals noted they felt endorsements provide a useful mechanism to formally recognise advanced or specialised skills that extend beyond a practitioner's core scope of practice. It should strike an appropriate balance between recognising professional expertise and supporting the practical realities of workforce capacity and service delivery. Other feedback suggests it makes practitioners extending their skills through certification clear about what roles they can and cannot fulfil.

There was also feedback to say that using endorsements and recording them on the public register will benefit and protect the public by providing employers, other practitioners, and the public with clear, accessible information about a practitioner's qualifications and competence. This transparency helps ensure patients receive safe, high-quality care from appropriately trained professionals.

Respondents did indicate concern about ensuring that only approved education programmes should be recognised in this way and that there should be a structured and consistent approach across the scopes. Concern was also expressed about ensuring that endorsements were only applied to the appropriate scope/s and any limitations that this may cause.

Based on feedback the Board has resolved to adopt the updated definition of practice and include endorsements on practising certificates.

**Note:** *We received a large amount of feedback that would require more significant changes to the competence standards than what was being proposed in this consultation. This feedback will be considered as part of the more extensive review of the scope of practice and competence standards which is currently underway.*