



New Zealand  
Medical Radiation  
Technologists Board  
*Te Poari Ringa Hangarua Iraruke*

MRTB  
NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW ZEALAND MEDICAL RADIATION TECHNOLOGISTS BOARD

## ***FROM THE CHAIR***

*Welcome to the new year, we hope that after the events of 2020 there was opportunity for members to participate in deserved rest, relaxation and time away from work.*

*We welcome two new office staff members: Isabella Rarm - Registration Coordinator and Melissa Buist - Assistant to the Chief Executive. Along with new staff members, the MRTB's website is under re-development and you may notice some changes once this is live.*

*As a reminder, the 2021/2022 APC renewal period is coming up shortly. All practitioners will receive a communique when renewals have opened.*

**Beryl Kelly**

**MRTB Chair**

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### **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY**

*Once you are registered, you have a legal requirement to notify the Board of any changes to your residential, postal or work address within one month of the change. You can do this by logging into "My Profile" on the website.*

### **BOARD'S RESPONSIBILITY**

*The primary responsibility of the Board is to protect the health and safety of the New Zealand public by ensuring practitioners registered with the Board are competent and fit to practise.*

## Online Examination - Update

The online examination has now been opened to all scopes (MIT, RT, NMT, MRI and SON). The online examinations are used to assess a practitioner's competence by applying foundational knowledge to demonstrate safe and ethical clinical practice. The online examinations are based on a competency-based model that focuses on the application of medical imaging/radiation therapy knowledge in a clinical environment. Questions are asked from the point of view of how knowledge is used to practise as opposed to the direct recall of that knowledge and are linked to the entry-level competencies required to practise medical imaging or radiation therapy in New Zealand.

In December 2020, 14 overseas-trained practitioners who applied for registration and were offered the online examination. Of the 14 practitioners:

1 MRI  
1 SON  
12 MITs

Four passed (3 MIT and 1 MRI) and were granted registration.

The Board still requires the ongoing support of our content writers to produce questions for the online examinations. The Board is especially seeking NMT and MRI content writers. If you wish to become a content writer, please express your interest via email at [mrt@medsci.co.nz](mailto:mrt@medsci.co.nz).

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## APC Renewals

The APC renewal for your 2021/2022 APC will open on 22 February 2021.  
Your current 2020/2021 APC will expire on the 31st March 2021.

### *RESETTING YOUR PASSWORD:*

If you have forgotten your password you can use the "Forgotten Password" option to reset it. There are two ways you can reset your password:

- via the email address registered with the Board and we will send you a link to reset your password; or
- via text message.

If you have forgotten your password and you do not have access to the email address registered with the Board, and your mobile number is not up to date, email the Board [mrt@medsci.co.nz](mailto:mrt@medsci.co.nz) and we will update your details.

### *MAKING A PAYMENT*

There are two ways you can pay for your APC:

- Credit card;
- Internet banking (enter your registration number in the reference box)

Registration applications received by the Board between October - December 2020.

| <b>Scope of practice</b>                               | <b>Total</b> |
|--|--------------|
| <b>Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Technologist</b>   | 12           |
| England  | 1            |
| New Zealand  | 11           |
| <b>Medical Imaging Technologist</b>                    | 98           |
| Australia  | 1            |
| England  | 1            |
| Fiji   | 1            |
| New Zealand  | 88           |
| Scotland   | 1            |
| South Africa   | 5            |
| USA  | 1            |
| <b>Nuclear Medicine Technologist</b>                   | 6            |
| Austria  | 1            |
| New Zealand  | 5            |
| Radiation Therapist                                    | 19           |
| New Zealand  | 19           |
| <b>Sonographer</b>                                     | 30           |
| Australia  | 6            |
| Canada   | 2            |
| England  | 1            |
| Malaysia   | 1            |
| New Zealand  | 14           |
| South Africa   | 5            |
| USA  | 1            |
| <b>Trainee Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologist</b> | 8            |
| <b>Trainee Nuclear Medicine Technologist</b>           | 1            |
| <b>Trainee Sonographer</b>                             | 3            |
| <b>Total</b>   | 177          |

# Gazette Notice Outcome

In December 2020, the MRTB posted the outcome of its consultation on the prescribed qualifications for the purpose of registration. The below changes were made to the New Zealand Gazette notice (an authoritative journal of government notifications that are required by legislation to be published):

## Nuclear Medicine

An undergraduate qualification in medical imaging or radiation therapy as approved by the Board, and a minimum of 2.5 years FTE nuclear medicine practice that meets Board clinical experience requirements, and a pass in a Board nuclear medicine examination.

## Ultrasound/Sonography

An undergraduate qualification in medical imaging or radiation therapy as approved by the Board, and a minimum of 2.5 years FTE ultrasound practice that meets Board clinical experience requirements, and a pass in a Board ultrasound examination.

## MRI

An undergraduate qualification in medical imaging or radiation therapy as approved by the Board, and a minimum of 2.5 years FTE MRI practice that meets Board clinical experience requirements, and a pass in a Board MRI examination.

## Some changes in the Office

The MRT Board works very closely with the Medical Sciences Council (MSC), with whom they set up a jointly-owned company, Medical Sciences Secretariat (MSS).

MSS has a governance board comprised of Directors who come from the MRTB and the MSC. To strengthen the succession planning for MSS, the Board of Directors has recently been increased from four to six, with three Directors coming from the MRTB and three from the MSC.

The MSS staff also welcomes two new staff members; Isabella Rarm who joins the Registration Team and Melissa Buist, Assistant to the Chief Executive.

