



New Zealand
Medical Radiation
Technologists Board
Te Poari Ringa Hangarau Iraruke

MRTB
NEWS

TE HEAMANA/FROM THE CHAIR

Tēnā koutou katoa,

We are now six months into 2023 and winter is on its way. I want to acknowledge all practitioners who work every day providing health care to whānau or education to students or supporting new practitioners to our country or those returning to practice. Each individual practitioner working with and supporting colleagues contributes to the health and safety of the Aotearoa | New Zealand public.

The Board has had a busy start to the year and we are pleased to see some of our projects coming to fruition. As you will read, we have been busy meeting with practitioners who have expressed an interest in being part of our Māori practitioners advisory group and are currently working towards the establishment of this ropu. We are also in the midst of developing resources to help support our Board appointed supervisors. If you have not done so, please check our website and review our latest document on how to become a supervisor for the Board. This role is key in ensuring the safe integration of internationally qualified practitioners into our health system.

A number of professional organisations have their conferences over the course of the next few months. These events provide great opportunities for professional development which not only mean you are meeting some of our recertification requirements but through learning you are enhancing the care provided to consumers. Myself and fellow Board members also in attendance look forward to meeting with you at these events.

Ngā mihi,

Billie Mudie
MRTB Chair

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.

Message from the Chief Executive

Kia ora koutou

Recently I have had the opportunity to meet a number of practitioners and those involved with the education of practitioners and to talk with them about their work. I always enjoy the opportunity to discuss practice with clinicians and to gain an understanding of their realities. I look forward to meeting more of you over the course of the next few months.

As practitioners maintaining competence is integral to the health and safety of the public, the Board sets the minimum standards required of all practitioners for continuing development which not only includes clinical and technical competence, but also cultural competence. To support you in this area, the Board is developing a list of cultural competence education resources for practitioners that will be added to the website in due course.

The staff in the secretariat have been busy completing the end of practising certificate processes and now our practitioner audit work. The registration team are also involved in applications for registration. At the end of this newsletter, we show the number of practitioners who have been granted registration over the 2022-2023 practising year. Last year we registered 443 individual practitioners of which 268 are Aotearoa | New Zealand graduates. Further information and analysis will be provided in our annual report.

As Chief Executive I take my responsibilities for the health and wellbeing of my staff very seriously. Recently, there have been incidents when communication with the staff team by a small number of practitioners has not been of the standard required.

My request to practitioners is that when writing to or phoning the Board that the staff are treated with respect. They are there to help you with your application processes and questions, and I expect this is conducted in a professional manner by practitioners and staff.

The Board's Code of Ethical Conduct outlines a practitioner's professional obligation to communicate in a respectful and collaborative manner with colleagues both within the profession and the wider healthcare setting, which includes the Board's staff. Any abuse directed towards staff may result in you being referred to the Board.

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini - Success is not the work of one but the work of many.

Dr Susan Calvert | Chief Executive

Introduction from the Communications and Projects Team



Miriam Brown - Communications and Projects Manager

Miriam (BA Psychology) has been with the Board for five years and in this time has worked on numerous projects and publications. She has a background in case management and health regulation and thrives on engaging with practitioners and stakeholders across various platforms. In her spare time, you'll often find her indulging in her favourite activities. Whether she's horse riding, lacing up her running shoes, or exploring the breath-taking trails of Te-Whanganui-a-Tara, she embraces the outdoors as a source of rejuvenation and inspiration.



Devon Davies - Communications and Projects Coordinator

Devon is a recent graduate from Massey University, Palmerston North with a BSc in Mathematics. She has a special interest in statistical analysis and is passionate about all things communications. In her spare time, Devon enjoys regular gym sessions and being in the great outdoors. You'll find Devon's friendly face at various conferences later this year – please don't hesitate to say kia ora!

EOI Māori Practitioners Advisory Committee

Thank you to those who submitted an expression of interest for the Māori Practitioners Advisory Committee. The Board will consider the applications received and will advise successful applicants shortly. The Board will provide further communication on the membership of the committee and meeting schedule in due course.

Conference Attendance

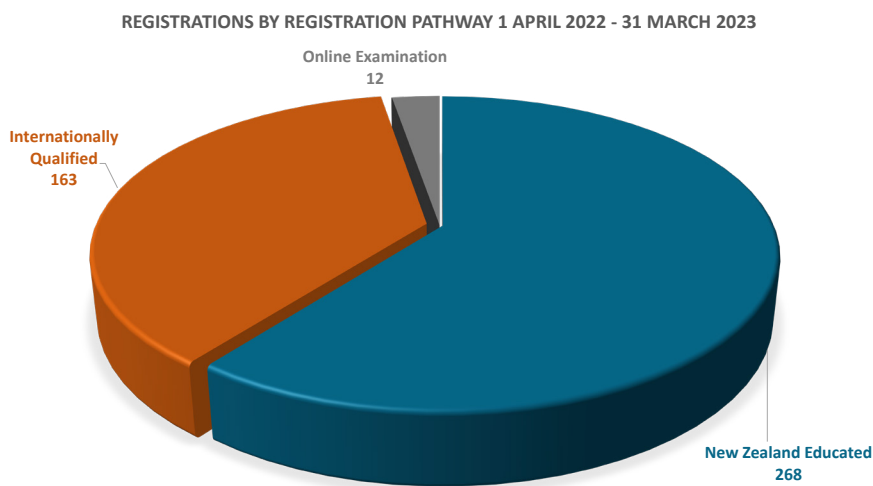
The Board is pleased to advise that we will be attending the following conferences this year:

- ASUM 21-23 July in Christchurch
- ANZSNM 9-10 September in Auckland
- NZIMRT 15-17 September in Queenstown
- ISMRT 18-19 November in Auckland

We are looking forward to answering any questions you may have and reconnecting with the wider profession.

Approved Registrations 2022/2023

The below graph outlines the total number of approved registrations between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 and which registration pathway they were approved through.



Key:

New Zealand Educated: Applied for registration based on a New Zealand qualification accredited by the Board.

Internationally Qualified: Overseas qualification which was assessed and considered substantially equivalent to the New Zealand prescribed qualification.

Online Examination: When an applicant's overseas qualification is assessed as not being substantially equivalent to the NZ prescribed qualification, an applicant may be offered the opportunity to sit a registration examination.

CPD Audit Reminder

As a reminder, practitioners selected for audit this year will have to provide one years' worth of CPD relating to CPD activities they undertook between January – December 2022.

Practitioners who are selected for audit must provide:

- Evidence that they have engaged in a minimum of ten hours of CPD between January - December 2022
- Evidence of a minimum of five hours of substantive CPD activities
- Evidence of a minimum of three completed CPD activities
- Two reflective statements - one must be related to your scope of practice (substantive) and one must be related to ethical practice **or** culturally appropriate practice
- A completed declaration form including logbook and employment history

Updating your Details

As registered health professionals there are certain administrative responsibilities within the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (HPCA Act) that you must comply with. The Board is mindful of its obligations with the Privacy Act (2020) and only collects information for which it has a legitimate purpose.

For example, under section 140 of the HPCA Act you must notify the Board within one month if you change your name. This can be through marriage, divorce, or deed poll. Providing this information ensures our register is up to date and consumers and employers checking entries on the public website have the most accurate information. You can provide formal evidence of a name change directly to the registration team at mrt@medsci.co.nz who can assist in updating details.

You must also provide us with a postal and electronic address. If this changes we ask that you log into “My profile” and update your details. By ensuring we have the correct details you will receive all communication from the Board.

The Board must also provide information to the Director General of Health. This includes information about employers, hours worked, etc and the requirement to collect this is covered under section 134A of the HPCA Act. This information is used only for the purposes of supporting the Ministries responsibilities for workforce planning and development and is usually provided when you complete your practising certificate application. If, however, your details change then please do not hesitate to contact the registration team at mrt@medsci.co.nz who can update your record with us. By doing this we ensure that the Ministry has the most accurate information on which to base its forecasting model.

Changes to the Radiation Safety Regulations

The government made its final decision to amend the Radiation Safety Amendment Regulations on 8 May 2023. The amendments are set out in the [Radiation Safety Amendment Regulations 2023](#). The changes come into force on 28 June 2023. More information on the changes can be found on the [Manatū Hauora website](#).