

Te Heamana – Te Manahautu

Message from - the Chair and the Chief Executive

Tēnā koutou katoa

It's been a busy time for the Medical Radiation Technologists Board (the Board). In this newsletter you'll hear first-hand about operational, as well as strategic projects, we've been working on. A key achievement during June was the successful launch of our practitioner database. If you haven't already done so we encourage you to log in and look at your new portal. There's more about what's changed and what you need to know a bit further on in this newsletter.

For those practitioners who were selected for audit, you will have been contacted by the Medical Sciences Secretariat (Secretariat) staff. You'll see that improvements made to the process means the new portal now accepts the audit documentation directly.

On Tuesday 29 July the Board and Te Manu Mātārae (the Māori Practitioners Advisory Committee) hosted a hui for Māori practitioners. Almost 50 practitioners from across the motu came to Tāmaki Makarau to discuss cultural competence and cultural safety, and to provide feedback on our cultural competency policy.

As a group we discussed the standards of competence and how cultural safety needs to be embedded in programmes of education, both in practice and in the recertification (ongoing competence) framework. Te Manu Mātārae provided feedback at the hui and made recommendations to the Board regarding next steps.

As Chair and Chief Executive, we were very pleased to welcome these practitioners and to hear their perspectives on these important topics.

The Board has continued to work on the scope of practice project and recently held small sub-group meetings with scope specific members of the Expert Advisory Groups.

...

In this issue

- » Te Heamana – Te Manahautu - message from the Chair and the CE /P1&2
- » Meet the new registrar /P2
- » Digital change project /P2&3
- » Te Manu Mātārae /P4
- » Consultations and outcomes / P4
- » Registration and APCs /P5
- » Tell us what you want to know and how - survey /P5
- » Recertification - audit in progress /P5&6
- » Who 'we' are /P6



...cont.,

Thank you to those practitioners who participated in our recent consultations. We're currently analysing all the feedback provided – this will be discussed at the next Board meeting in August. Outcomes from all previous discussions and consultations will be posted on our website as soon as possible.

Engaging with stakeholders remains a priority for us. Recently we attended the ANZSNM and ASA conferences. It was very pleasing to witness Board member Carol Bagnall being [awarded Sonographer of the Year New Zealand at the ASA conference](#). Along with many other regulators, we also attended the National Regulatory Accreditation Scheme meeting hosted by Ahpra. We'll be attending some local events in the next few months and look forward to meeting with practitioners there.

We're also waiting to hear more about the Ministry of Health's consultation: Putting patients first. You can read about it, and our response, [here](#). Once we know the outcome we'll be in touch.

Finally, we acknowledge all practitioners across the motu for the work you do. We understand that winter makes a busy job even busier.

Ngā mihi nui

Anthony Bow
MRTB Chair



Dr Susan Calvert
Chief Executive



www.mrtboard.org.nz

Meet the new registrar

After Caleb Bridgeman moved on to new and exciting opportunities, the Board announced that Hamish McDouall was appointed as the new Registrar – joining us on 16 June 2025.



Hamish came to us after two years as the Registrar for the Social Workers Registration Board. He's a lawyer by trade – having worked in the Treaty settlement space, in community law, and in general legal practice.

Between 2016 and 2022 Hamish was mayor in his hometown of Whanganui but says he doesn't miss local body politics.

He's had a varied career – working as a journalist, author, an English teacher and even a Parliamentary tour guide after leaving university.

Hamish says that while he hasn't worked in the health sector before, he's enjoying the new challenge. He says, "I'm having to find my way around a new Act, which can be a bit of a challenge, but I'm familiar with scopes of practice, competencies, accreditation, and professional standards. I'm enjoying the team at the Secretariat, meeting stakeholders, and planning where I might put my energies to make a difference."

Digital change project

We've replaced our practitioner registration system and moved to a new set up. It allows us to do more of our work online, includes a clear and easy-to-navigate platform that allows users to find the information needed quickly, improved navigation and accessibility, and a clean layout. And yes, it does look different.

Registered practitioners – things to know

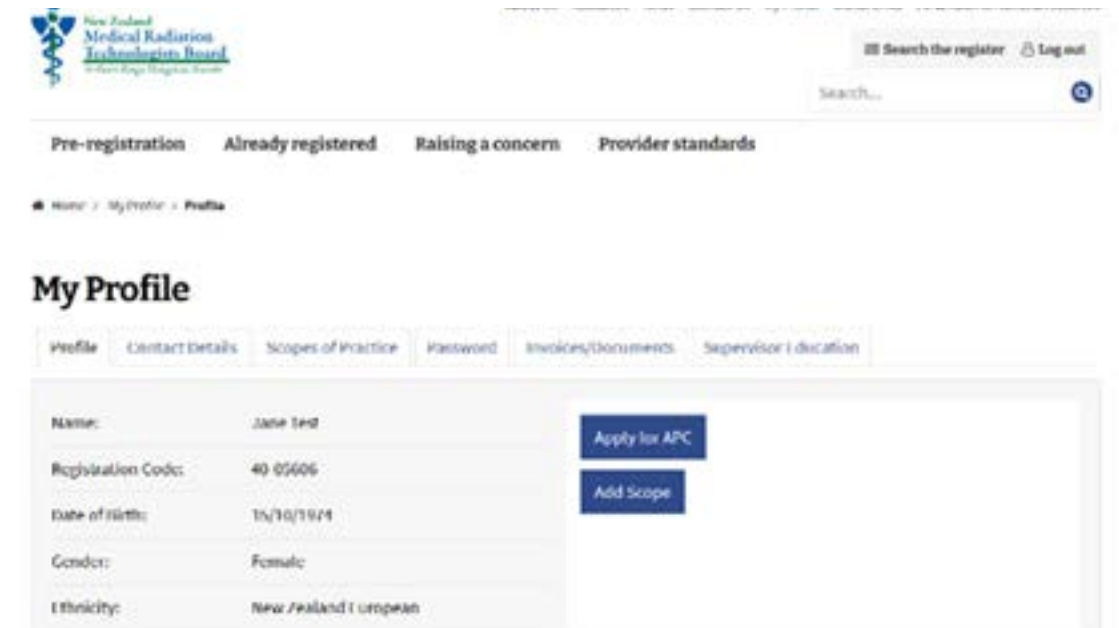
If you haven't done so already, log in and take it for a spin. You'll need to update your password.

Whether you're new to using the system or new to what's changed, take a few minutes to read through the information and FAQs on the website [here](#) (under News) – it'll help guide you. ...

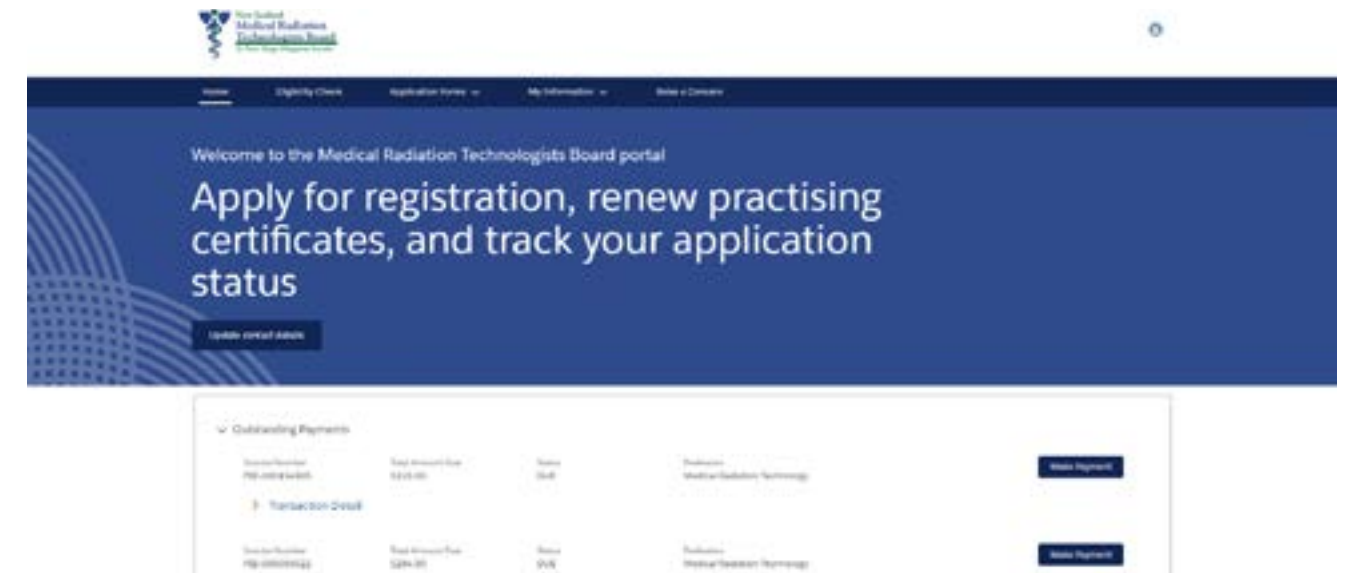
- You'll need to update favourites and bookmarks as links may have changed.
- Use your same email address to login – you'll need to reset your password.
- Some of our processes have changed - check the website to see what's different.

There's 'how to' information about creating a profile, a couple of short videos that will help with registering in the new system, and a link to 'Was / Is' (examples of what it was like before v what it looks like now), for example:

What it looked like before



What it looks like now



If, after reading the information provided, you're still unsure about what to do and have queries, email mrtb@medsci.co.nz or phone +64 4 801 6250 ext 1.

Te Manu Mātārae

Te Manu Mātārae (the Māori Practitioners Advisory Committee) – is made up of representatives from different scopes of practice (as well as lay people) from consumers of health care services. They assist with the review of key standards and codes of conduct, inform the Board about policy changes required to ensure practitioners have the competencies to enable effective interaction with Māori, and advise on related matters as per section 118 of the Act.

Tokowhitu ngā mema o Te Manu Mātārae. Ko rātou ngā māngai o ngā momo hōkaitanga (me ngā tāngata reimana) mai i ngā kiritaki o ngā ratonga hauora hei Awhina ki te arotake i ngā paerewa matua me ngā tikanga whakahaere. He kaitohutohu hoki rātou ki te Poari.

For more about them, view website details on the website [here](#) under About us/Māori Practitioners Advisory Committee.

Practitioner’s hui

The Board and Te Manu Mātārae hosted a Hui for Māori practitioners on 29 July. This was an opportunity to meet with Māori practitioners and discuss the Board’s role in ensuring cultural competence for the profession.

It was a great turnout, with plenty of good open kōrero shared by all, in what we hope felt like a safe space. While the focus of discussion was on cultural competence and cultural safety people graciously shared their personal and professional experiences, making it a valuable opportunity to listen and learn.

The following article was also shared and discussed:

- [Refining the definitions of cultural safety, cultural competency and indigenous health: lessons from Aotearoa New Zealand](#). Source: [BMC International Journal for Equity in Health Home page | International Journal for Equity in Health](#).

This article was used as an example only for discussion.

Consultations and outcomes

Practising certificate policy

Thank you to those who took the time to make a submission in our recent consultation on the definition of practice and the criteria for holding a practicing certificate. The results are being collated and will go to the Board meeting in August for consideration.

Reviewing scopes of practice

We’re currently reviewing the scopes of practice to ensure they’re fit for purpose. The Board has established an expert advisory group of practitioners from each of the modalities who are providing advice and guidance during this work.

A draft scope is being developed and consultation on the proposed changes is scheduled for later in the year. We’ll keep you updated as things progress and encourage all practitioners to consider the potential changes then make a submission.

We’re also in the process of developing a position statement on providing remote care services. It will consider provision of services when a practitioner is not physically present within a facility.

The purpose of the statement is to provide guidance to ensure practitioners, and the public, can receive safe and effective care using new technologies.

Registration and APCs

How to apply for registration

You can now apply through the online portal. It’s easier and more straightforward. If you’re an Aotearoa Graduate or internationally qualified, you’ll find out what documents you need to apply on our website.

How to apply for an APC

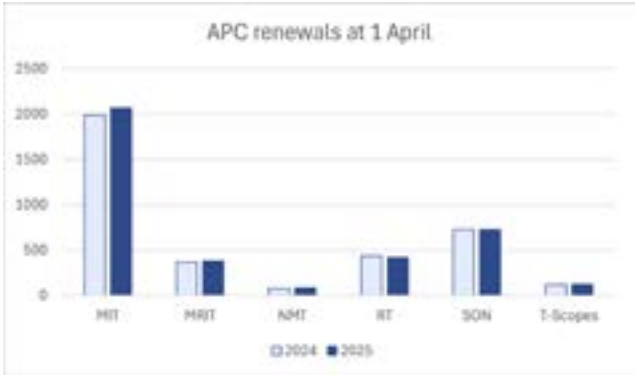
You can apply for an APC through your portal (on the Board website). We’ve provided a step-by-step guide on [‘how to apply for an APC’ on the website under Resources/Recertification](#). You can also track the status of your application on the ‘My submitted applications’ tab of your online portal.

Changes - how APCs look

You may have noticed some changes to the way an APC looks. For example, we’ve decided not to include registration numbers on APCs. There have been some incidences in other professions where publicly available registration numbers have been used to support fraud. Consequently, we’re no longer including that information on APCs or our online register.

APC results

Here’s a comparison of APCs applied for, and renewed, in 2024 and 2025 for each scope of practice.



Tell us what you want to know and how

How do you know what’s going on, what’s new, what’s changed, comment on consultations about proposed regulation or policy changes?

Is it word-of-mouth, emails from the Board/ Secretariat staff, the Board website – maybe even these newsletters?

To make sure you’re getting important information when and where you need it, please take a few minutes to do the Newsletter survey – it’s multi choice, anonymous. and includes options to leave comments.

[Click here to do the survey](#)

Recertification - audit in progress

There’s a recertification audit underway (aka Continual Professional Development) – and you may be one of the people selected to take part. We do one of these every two years. It’s a way for health practitioners to support their ongoing professional development, and for us to make sure registered practitioners are practising safely, effectively, and legally within their scope of practice. It’s also mandatory to do the audit if you’ve been selected.

What’s involved

For more about the audit read the email sent on 17 July – there’s also information on our website [here, under Already registered/Recertification – Continuing Professional Development \(CPD\)](#). It includes details and links for: declarations (about your employment history, practice, and audit submission form), logbook (for listing CPD activities completed during the biennium), reflective statements (related to your scope of practice, ethical practice, culturally appropriate practice, and one of your own choice), evidence.

...cont,

Got a query?

Check the website information and FAQs (you may find the answers you're after there) at www.mrtboard.org.nz - if you still have queries, email mrt@medsci.co.nz or phone us on +64 4 801 6250.

Who 'we' are

Te Poari Ringa Hangarau Iraruke - The New Zealand Medical Radiation Technologists Board (MRTB/the Board) is one of 18 New Zealand health responsible authorities (RAs) appointed by the Minister of Health under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (the Act).

The Board is responsible for administering the Act, and 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.

The Board is a joint owner of Te Rangatapu Pūtaiao a Rongoā | the Medical Sciences Secretariat (MSS/the Secretariat), a company that provides regulatory services. This arrangement with Te Kaunihera Pūtaiao Hauora | the Medical Sciences Council (MSC/the Council) enables the Board to achieve efficiencies in terms of costs. Through collaboration, the Secretariat model enables the Board to support consistency in regulatory standards.

Using the services of a Secretariat to manage business services for the Board means we're able to keep fees at the lower end of the scale, achieve efficiencies and consistency in regulatory standards, and manage key initiatives and business goals.

The Board has defined eight scopes of practice for registration in the profession of Medical Radiation Technology. The scopes are:

- Medical Imaging Technologist (MIT)
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Technologist

...

- Nuclear Medicine Technologist (NMT)
- Radiation Therapist (RT)
- Sonographer (Son)
- Trainee Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Technologist (T-MRIT)
- Trainee Nuclear Medicine Technologist (T-NMT)
- Trainee Sonographer (T-Son).

During this last financial year –

- 3989 practitioners were issued with a practising certificate
- there were 467 approved registrations across the eight scopes of practice – of those 258 (55%) were New Zealand graduates and 209 (45%) were internationally qualified practitioners.

Our responsibility -

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

Getting in touch -

Phone +64 4 801 6250 - email mrt@medsci.co.nz - check the website for more information www.mrtboard.org.nz

