



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

# OUTCOMES OF THE SURVEY ON PRACTISING CERTIFICATES FOR PRACTITIONERS WORKING IN NON-CLINICAL ROLES

In October 2015 the Medical Radiation Technologists Board published a communique seeking feedback on the proposal to introduce a non-clinical practising certificate for practitioners engaged in the profession but working in non-clinical roles.

May 2016

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# SCOPES OF PRACTICE REVIEW: A PROGRESS OVERVIEW

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The Medical Radiation Technologists Board extends its appreciation to all those individuals and groups who responded to its October 2015 communique on the proposed non-clinical practising certificate.



The review was undertaken in accordance with the Board’s responsibilities in regulating the profession of medical radiation technology (medical imaging and radiation therapy) under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003.

Date	Milestone	Highlights
December 2014	Initial communique and survey seeking feedback on a number of issues pertaining to the regulation of the medical imaging and radiation therapy profession.	515 respondents who answered the question “should practitioners who work in the profession but in a non-clinical role be required to hold a current practising certificate. 46% replied “yes, and 54% “no”.
October 2015	Communique and survey published seeking feedback on the proposal to introduce a non-clinical practising certificate for practitioners engaged in the profession but working in non-clinical roles.	156 responses to the question “Do you agree with the proposal of the Board issuing non-clinical practising certificates” 129 responded “yes”, 27 “no”.

## RESPONSE RATE

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For the whole survey:



176 INDIVIDUALS



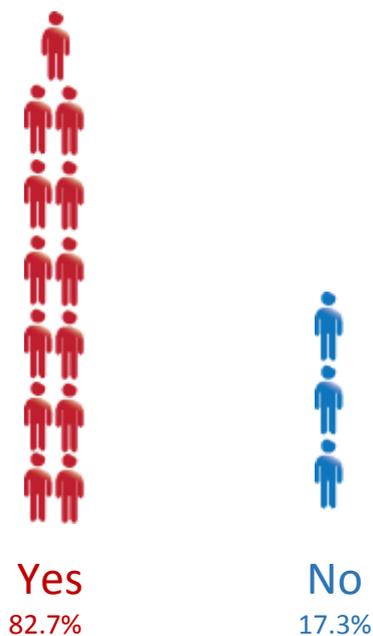
1 GROUP



177 TOTAL RESPONSES

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*To the question “Do you agree with the proposal of the Board issuing non-clinical practising certificates?” there were a total of 156 responses.*



## RESPONSE THEMES

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Recipients of the October 2015 survey were asked to provide the Board with feedback to the following question:



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*Do you agree with the proposal of the Board issuing non-clinical practising certificates?*

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### RESPONDENTS COMMENTARY ON NON-CLINICAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATES

- Senior management roles often include practitioners who wish to maintain their clinical practice, and have a management component to support their clinical component – the proposed changes mean maintaining an APC is no longer unfeasible.
- Many positions of responsibility - management, education and research roles are working in the profession, and potentially directly influencing the clinical practice of other practitioners.
- A non-clinical APC would acknowledge the contribution of management roles in the delivery of safe patient care.
- Non-clinical positions including those in education are potentially still working in the profession, and ought to be able to pursue and give 100% to those positions, without the concern of losing their ability to practise in the future.
- There are those who work in dual roles, as a teaching and practising practitioner. As a unit charge a clinical practising certificate should be required, however if you are only conducting research, should an APC really be required.
- Some practitioners spend a significant amount of time teaching applications in a clinical environment, resulting in the incapacity to fulfil the requirements to maintain an APC; resulting in practitioners potentially having to choose between professions.
- As technology is frequently evolving, those holding management positions may not be up-to-date with the latest technology and techniques.

## BOARD'S ACTIONS

The Board is currently reviewing the competencies for all scopes of practise, and will include a section on non-clinical practice. This piece of work will need to be completed prior to implementing processes for issuing a non-clinical APC.



Once the competency review is completed, the Board will introduce a process for the issue of an APC with a condition of non-clinical practice. These processes will include a pathway for:

- practitioners who are holding an APC and would like to switch to a non-clinical practising certificate, and
- practitioners who are not holding an APC and wish to apply for a non-clinical practising certificate.

## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

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