



# New Zealand Dietitians Board

Te Mana Tohunga Matai Kai

## Registration Competency Requirements Review

The Board is currently undertaking an important review of the Registration Competency Requirements. The aim of the review is to focus on the future learning outcomes and performance criteria to prepare dietitians for dietetic practice for the next 3–10 years.

The Board therefore needs your help please. You will have been sent an email informing you of this review and giving you the link for the on-line questionnaire. Background information of this review, including the on-line questionnaire are on the Board's website. It will take you 30–45 minutes to complete and responses received by current Practising Certificate holders by **31 October 2007**, will go into a draw to win one of four prizes of \$100 book vouchers. We look forward to your considered response.

You will need to read the '*Statement of Registration Competency Requirements*' (January 2004) document prior to starting the questionnaire and have it in front of you whilst participating. You may also have the opportunity to be part of a focus group facilitated by your NZDA Branch Representative. A similar questionnaire will be sent to stakeholders.

## Mutual Recognition with Australia

The Board and the Dietitians Association of Australia (DAA) have entered into a 'Mutual Recognition Voluntary Relationship Charter', which was announced to the New Zealand profession at the NZ Dietetic Association (NZDA) conference on 5 September. This Charter means that Australian fully Accredited Practising Dietitians and New Zealand Registered Dietitians with an APC may now be eligible to



The "Mutual Recognition Voluntary Relationship Charter" being signed by Barbara Ryan (Board) and Julie Hulcombe (DAA) at the NZDA conference on 5/9/07.

work in either country by completing a simple application process. For further information please check the websites: [www.dietitiansboard.org.nz](http://www.dietitiansboard.org.nz) or [www.daa.asn.au](http://www.daa.asn.au).

## Continuing Competency

There have been several significant developments regarding the Continuing Competency Programme in the past months.

- The '**Continuing Competency Programme Manual**' revision was completed in June 2007, and a PDF version is on the Board's website. The Registrar will post you a copy if requested.
- The '**CCP Audit Template**' has been simplified – either the new version or the older version will be acceptable for audit. A 'Word' version (for down-loading and writing on) is on the website.
- Cultural Competency** – the Board has agreed to make 'Cultural Competency' mandatory, five years from when the HPCA Act 2003 became law (on 18/9/04). This means that you will have to provide evidence of cultural

### IN THIS ISSUE

- Registration Competency Requirements Review
- Mutual Recognition with Australia
- Continuing Competency, including Cultural Competency
- Board Membership
- Miscellaneous

NEWSLETTER TO  
THE PROFESSION

OCTOBER 2007

## continued

- competency being undertaken annually in your audits, from **September 2009**. This includes providing evidence of at least one 'Treaty of Waitangi' activity every five years.
- d) **Cultural Competency on-line course and test** – please check the website for details, instructions and the link to participate in this innovative new course, with its own on-line test.
- e) **Supervision Guidelines/Agreement** – the Continuing Competency Committee have completed Supervision Guidelines. These are particularly helpful for supervisors of new graduates/overseas trained dietitians/and supervisors of those returning to practise dietetics after an absence of three years or more. Check the website or ask the Registrar to send you a copy.
- f) **Continuing Competency audits** – Those selected for the seventh Continuing Competency audit are reminded to send their audit documentation in by 31 October. Please don't send more than you have been asked to – huge folders of evidence are not necessary and are difficult to send to the Auditors.
- g) **Returning to work procedures** – The procedures for those wishing to be re-certified after more than three years from practising dietetics, have recently changed. A flow chart outlining these procedures is on the website. Requirements will vary from person to person.

## Board Membership

Dr Winsome Parnell resigned from the Board earlier this year, having being a member of the Board since August 2002 and a key person on the Legislative and Education and Accreditation committees. The Board has appreciated Dr Winsome Parnell's academic expertise on the Board and will miss her input very much.

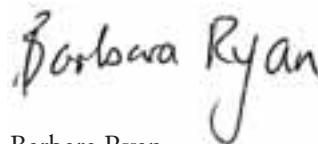
The Board is pleased to welcome Dr Carol Wham as the eighth Board member.

Dr Carol Wham is a senior lecturer for the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Human Health at Massey University. Carol has a broad experience in clinical dietetics, as a consultant to the food industry, in teaching and research. She is an associate editor of 'Nutrition and Dietetics'. Her interests are in public health nutrition, behavioural nutrition and nutrition and ageing and has several research projects and publications related to these areas.

## Miscellaneous

- a) **Website** – Please regularly check the website. To assist your navigation of the website, please note that the main headings: e.g. "Registration", "Practitioners Information" etc are the green headings. The sub headings, e.g. "APC Renewals", "Maintain Competency" etc are the white sub headings below the green heading and these are listed alphabetically. The quickest way to find the section you want is to use the **Site Map**. Many of the documents required by already registered dietitians (the 'CCP Audit template', 'CCP Manual', the 'Guidelines for Cultural Competency' and the names/contacts for the CC Resource People) are listed under "Practitioners Information" – "Maintain Competency".
- b) **Employers** – Employers should read the revised '*Handbook of information on registration procedures for overseas trained dietitians intending to practise Dietetics in NZ*', which is under "Registration: Qualified outside NZ". Further information will soon be posted on the website for Employers.
- c) **Email addresses** – a special request from the Registrar, Jane de Lisle; please always ensure that the Board has your current main email address, so that information can be emailed as necessary. Currently this would include information being sent regarding the Registration Competency Requirements (RCR) survey with the link to the RCR questionnaire.
- d) **Changing name or address?** You are reminded that you are legally obliged to inform the Board promptly of any change of residential, postal or work address, and to inform the Board of a change of name within one month.

### Best wishes



Barbara Ryan  
Chairperson

## Contacting the Dietitians Board ...

Contacting the Board is through its office at:  
Level 21, Grand Plimmer Tower  
2-6 Gilmer Terrace  
Wellington

Mail all correspondence to:  
The Registrar  
Dietitians Board  
PO Box 10140  
Wellington

Phone (04) 474 0746  
Fax (04) 472 2350  
Email [dietitians@regboards.co.nz](mailto:dietitians@regboards.co.nz)  
Website [www.dietitiansboard.org.nz](http://www.dietitiansboard.org.nz)

The Board is supported by its Registrar:  
Jane de Lisle