



Dietitians Board

Te Mana Tohunga Matai Kai

DECEMBER 2015

Newsletter to Practitioners

Protecting the health and safety of the New Zealand Public
Promoting and enhancing the wellbeing of New Zealanders by ensuring dietitians
practice safely, competently and effectively

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Tēnā koutou & Welcome to the December 2015 Newsletter – which includes information to assist you practise safely, competently and effectively!

FEE CONSULTATION – GAZETTED NEW FEES

The Board wishes to thank those who responded to the recent Fee Consultation. The majority of the submissions were supportive. Feedback that the Board saw repeated related to the Non-Practising/Maintenance of Registration Fee. The Board has subsequently decided to lower the intended fee for this to \$50pa. The Non-practising fee will cover costs related to practitioners not currently practicing but wishing to remain on the Register – these costs cover such things as administration and operational tasks, register/database maintenance, website/MyCCP maintenance, archive filing storage, newsletters, policy development, governance and regulatory tasks. When a practitioner renews their APC they will be required to pay the usual APC fee after returning from maternity leave, travel overseas or a career break.

The new fees for the 2016/2017 practicing year have been Gazetted and will come into force after 23 January 2016. You can find the full Gazette notice on the Boards website under **Latest News**.

Information regarding the Disciplinary Levy will be circulated prior to APC renewal.

APC RENEWALS

Before you know it the APC renewal period will be here again – the online renewal process will open on **1 March 2016**.

Every year, dietitians who wish to practise are required to hold an APC and in order to obtain an APC are legally required to complete the minimum Continuing Competence Programme requirements. As the renewal process happens at the same time every year please make sure it is in your diary so you have sufficient time to complete the renewal process.

The APC is a legal document – you need to make sure you apply for it in a timely manner and keep it in a safe place once you receive it. It is a practitioner's responsibility to renew and pay – not an employer's.

Who needs an APC?

If you are a Registered Dietitian you should hold an APC if:

- You are using your knowledge and skills as a Dietitian

- Your job description requires you to be a Registered Dietitian
- You are calling yourself a Dietitian (or representing in any manner that you are authorised to practise dietetics)
- The position you are employed in requires that you are a health professional
- You use your dietetic knowledge in your employment

Tips for a smooth renewal process can be found on the Boards website.

MyCCP

The Board would like to remind practitioners to keep their MyCCP up to date throughout the year. If the Board were asked for a Certificate of Good Standing by any organization and there was no evidence indicating engagement in the recertification programme (MyCCP) for the current year the Board would be unable to advise a practitioner was meeting their legal obligations.

Registered Dietitians are accountable for undertaking continuing competency (My CCP) – it is a requirement for the issuing each year of an APC and each year approximately 5-10% of the profession is audited.

Practitioners selected for Audit for the 2015/2016 practising year have been advised by email and post. MyCCP evidence is due before 1 February 2016.

DIETITIAN PRESCRIBING

Dietitian prescribers are able to prescribe and authorise subsidised dispensing of some specific products, in addition to all **Special Foods**.

The full list of vitamins, minerals and related products that dietitian can prescribe can be found on the Boards website

Designated prescribing regulations came into force on **3 August 2015** – dietitian prescribers are now able to prescribe a number of new products which are subsidised - high dose pancreatic enzymes, zinc and high dose Vitamin D.

Additionally PHARMAC recently announced the approval of a proposal to amend the Pharmaceutical Schedule rules to support the new prescribing rights that have been granted to Dietitian Prescribers.

In summary, the effect of this decision is that:

- The restrictions in the Schedule applying to dietitians' prescriptions (rule 3.5 of Section A of the Schedule) will be deleted from 1 October, meaning that prescriptions written by dietitian prescribers will be valid for subsidy for all products that are within their scope of practice.
- Any future changes to the range of medicines able to be prescribed by dietitian prescribers will not need further approval by PHARMAC in order for those prescriptions to be subsidised.

Dietitian Prescribers are reminded that a planned learning activity should be included in MyCCP to ensure the **successful completion of the Prescriber Annual Update on Moodle** – <http://nzdb.moodle.co.nz/> - the Moodle update needs to be successfully completed by 15 February 2016 (or before if you have been called for Audit)

More information can be found on the Boards website regarding prescribing.

PRIVACY

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner has recently launched new privacy training modules. These modules are available online for free and offer an opportunity for practitioners to further develop their knowledge on privacy matters. The modules can be found at <https://www.privacy.org.nz/further-resources/online-e-learning-privacy-modules/>.

Ensuring patient privacy is essential to providing proper care to your patients/clients. Privacy issues and potential breaches can arise at many points throughout dietetic practise, including: confidential information being discussed in the waiting room, file management, records security, advertising and sometimes even inappropriate small talk with patients/clients.

There are two modules currently available, one which focuses on privacy generally and one which focuses on health information. The modules would be useful adjuncts to your annual MyCCP.

REGISTRATION COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS - RCR

The Dietitians Board will be reviewing and updating their Registration Competency Requirements (RCR) in 2016. In preparation for this task, the Board is seeking early input from practising and non-practising dietitians who are currently on the Boards Register to guide this process.

Survey Monkey is available at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCRReview>

The survey is designed for individual feedback, which does not preclude group preparation. We encourage you to review the current RCR on the Boards website when completing this survey.

Your feedback is important so please engage with the survey – you have until 30 January 2016.

SCOPE OF PRACTICE – PRESCRIBED QUALIFICATIONS

The Board will be reviewing and updating the current Scope of Practice and clarifying the Prescribed Qualifications over the next 12 months to ensure they are fit for purpose and fit for the future - they will be engaging with practitioners seeking their feedback – keep an eye on the Boards website and your emails for further information.

NEW IT PLATFORM

In 2016 the Board will be moving to a new IT platform as the current one is near its “end of life” – this provides the Board with the opportunity to update MyCCP, link the website and the database, develop a smarter online renewal system and a number of other things which will be outlined in 2016 – this will ensure increased efficiency and improved practitioner interface.

The new platforms will be launched in the middle of 2016 – all going to plan!

BOARD OFFICE RELOCATING

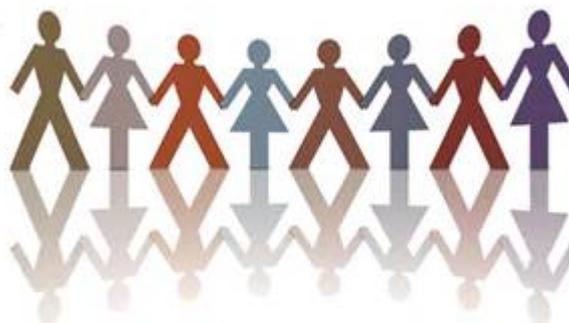
On the subject of moving - The Board moves physically to **Level 6, 22**

Willeston Street, Wellington in late February 2016 to co-locate with Chiropractic Board, Midwifery Council, Nursing Council, Occupational Therapy Board, Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians Board, Osteopathic Council Podiatrists Board, Psychologists Board and the Psychotherapy Board.

The Boards PO Box number will be changing from 1 April 2016 (info to follow)

The Boards telephone number will stay the same

There will be a shared reception area and shared meeting and board rooms and back office shared services. This colocation has been some time in its conception as some of you will be aware and the Board is pleased to at last have a moving date and is looking forward to working more closely with other Regulatory Authorities.



The Board has a busy couple of years ahead with a number of key projects to undertake and will be seeking practitioner and stakeholder participation on a number of occasions – the Board look forward to your input.



The Dietitians Board would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy festive season and a safe and restful holiday break.

The office will close at 4pm on Friday 18 December 2015 and reopen at 9am on Wednesday 13 January 2016.

Vicky Campbell - Sue Domanski

Chairperson - Registrar

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