



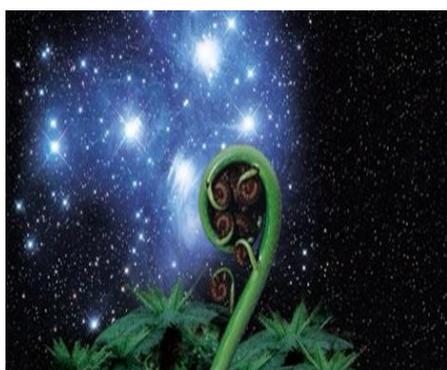
Dietitians Board

Te Mana Mātanga Mātai Kai

HŌNGONGOI 2019

RONGO PĀNUI

DRIVING THE CREATION OF A WORKFORCE THAT IS RESPONSIVE TO THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING NEEDS OF NEW ZEALANDERS



Tēnā koutou!

Over the past week there have been some wonderful Matariki celebrations around the country. Matariki signals the Māori New Year. It is a time of renewal and celebration that begins with the rising of the Matariki star cluster (the Pleiades or Seven Sisters) which appears in the night sky during mid-winter.

According to the Maramataka (the Māori lunar calendar), the reappearance of Matariki, brings the old lunar year to a close and marks the beginning of the new year. Hence, Matariki is associated with the Māori New Year.

It also has strong links to food, as traditionally festivities followed the harvesting of crops when the pātaka were full. A perfect celebration for dietitians! Different iwi in New Zealand celebrate at slightly different times, so check out what happens in your part of the country.

Ka puta Matariki ka rere Whānui.

Ko te tohu tēnā o te tau e!

**Matariki reappears, Vega starts its flight.
The new year begins!**

**Ngā kai a Matariki, nāna i ao ake ki runga.
The foods of Matariki, gathered up by her.**

BOARD UPDATES

CULTURAL CAPABILITY

As mentioned in the last pānui the Board was embarking on several initiatives and one of those was around cultural capability and engagement with Māori. At the May Board meeting the Board agreed to undertake a cultural capability workshop at a Marae in the Wellington region on 21 August 2019 prior to its next Board meeting. This will be facilitated by Mahanga Maru from Maru Consulting. The Board agreed the process would be a good starting point on its journey to develop a 2-3 year work plan which would incorporate a cultural capability strategy, stakeholder engagement initiatives, and practitioner competence standards.

APPOINTMENTS

Stella Friedlander's tenure came to an end in June after serving for 6 years on the Board as a practitioner member. Stella was convenor of the Competence, Fitness to Practise committee for much of this time and we acknowledge and thank her for her valued contribution to matters related to prescribing and MyCCP.

The Ministry of Health has now completed the appointment process for the two lay members on the Dietitians Board and the Minister of Health has reappointed **Jennifer Pelvin** for another three years and made a new appointment in **Jordan Waiti** PhD (Māori Public Health), MPhEd, BPhEd, also for a three year tenure. Jordan has affiliations with Ngāti Pikiao, Te Rārawa, Ngāti Haupoto and Ngaati Maahanga, and is a strong advocate for Māori, including Māori communities and rangatahi Māori. His research experience has been based on the barriers to healthy eating amongst primary school students. He has experience as a Board Member and Trustee member for a variety of Boards.

These new appointments mean that we now farewell lay member Paula Baker who has served for a three year term. Paula was convenor of the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee for three years, and Deputy Chair for two years. We

acknowledge Paula's extensive governance and management experience and thank her for the significant contribution she has made to the Board.

The appointment of the practitioner member advertised earlier this year (currently an appointment held by Laila Cooper) is still to be completed. The Minister considers all applicants very carefully before making a decision and it can be a very long process.

The Board now has a full complement of 7 Board members as required by the HPCA Act.

Board members are currently: Laila Cooper (Chair), Hiki Pihema, Louise Mainvil, Jennifer Pelvin, Catherine Humphrey, Tom Shand and Jordan Waiti.

HPI/CPN

The Health Provider Index (HPI) is a national database holding information to identify health providers. The HPI comprises three separate indexes for which the identifiers are:

- CPN (Common Person Number) - issued to Practitioners (people) who provide health services
- HPI ORG ID – issued to Organisations that provide health services.
- HPI FAC ID – issued to named facilities (locations) at which an Organisation provides health services.

The Board is very pleased to advise that **all practitioners have now been issued with a CPN** – this will soon be available on your dashboard under your Registration number. The CPN is used as a single identifier for a practitioner across health sector systems to access patient/client records and test results.

HEALTH PRACTITIONERS COMPETENCE ASSURANCE ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Royal Assent was signed off on the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act Amendment Bill in early April 2019, resulting in some changes for Regulatory Authorities (RAs). The Board wish to bring to your attention some of the key changes and additions that will impact on the work and operational costs of the Board.

Naming Policy – the Board will now be required to develop and publish a policy on naming health practitioners who have been subject to disciplinary action. Preliminary work has begun on this as the Board will be required to undertake consultation on this policy and it must be in place by April 2020. It is expected that the increased transparency that will come with a Naming Policy will enable the public to see more explicitly regulation operating.

Performance Reviews – structured accountability of regulators is becoming the norm and all RAs shall be reviewed every 5 years. Reviews of all 16 RAs will commence from 2020 onwards and be completed by April 2022 (and the review published on a RA's website). The Board will be reviewing all its policies and procedures over the next 6-8 months, to ensure robust, best practice is in place and is being applied consistently for all practitioner-facing actions as well as at a governance level. There will be a cost associated with this performance review.

Disciplinary Tribunal Operational Costs – The Board will be required to contribute to the operational costs of the Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal (the Tribunal). Provision for this will need to be made in the annual budget.

Cultural Competence Provisions – Specific mention of cultural competencies that will enable effective and respectful interaction with Māori have been added to s118 of the Act. To this end the Board has begun working on a review and development of its cultural capability and defining cultural competence standards.

ANNUAL PRACTISING DECLARATIONS – OBLIGATIONS OF REGISTERED DIETITIANS

It has come to the Board's attention there are a significant number of practitioners either in default of making an annual declaration or have made a Non-Practising declaration but are (or have been) practising without an APC.

The **Scope of Practice: Dietitian** is broad and overlaps with many activities performed under titles such as nutritionist, food service manager, policy advisor, health activator, lifestyle coach, health promoter, brand manager. Practise as defined in the HPCA Act means to perform services that fall within the description of the profession. Further, there is no limitation under the Act that these services be performed for remuneration or in the context of a clinical relationship or otherwise (e.g., management, administration, education, or research).

Practitioners therefore must be aware that, as long as they remain on the Register of Dietitians, they must hold a current practising certificate if they practise (under any title) within the scope of dietetics (as described by the Board).

When the Board becomes aware of practitioners on the Register who are practising without holding a practising certificate, or who are in default of making a declaration, it is obliged to make enquiries. The penalties under the Act for practising without a current practising certificate can be very severe, which reflects how important the practising certificate is as a mechanism to ensure that dietitians are competent and fit to practise the profession.

All practitioners who are currently on the Register but who do not hold a practising certificate should review their circumstances and notify the Board if they a) require a practising certificate, b) are not practising but wish to remain on the Register, or c) wish to come off the Register.

The Board encourages all practitioners to be respectful of each other and their profession by ensuring they are practicing legally.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (MyCCP)

Access to MyCCP 2019/2020 is now open and is the default year. If practitioners want to view previous years, they can simply select the period from the dropdown.

The annual audit of MyCCP has now been completed and the Auditors were impressed with the level of engagement, the variety of CPD activities and the comprehensive reflections logged by some practitioners.

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

There was some concern expressed that the CPD logged under Cultural Development was not always substantive and would not necessarily improve practice or translate into positive outcomes for patients. Given s118 of the Act now specifies health practitioners be competent to enable effective and respectful interaction with Māori the Board would like to take the opportunity to highlight the need to engage in CPD that will lead to transformative practice. The Board looks forward to being able to share updated cultural competence standards for dietitians in due course.

PRESCRIBING

With a reminder to include audits of prescribing in late 2018 and again in early 2019, there was an increase seen in prescribers including this in their peer/practice review. However, this was not undertaken by everyone and practitioners are reminded to ensure they undertake an audit of their prescribing each year.

NEW PRESCRIBER COURSE

The next **New Prescriber Training Course** will be held at the **University of Auckland** in Grafton, on **6 September 2019** – please contact the office to register your interest. Further information will be available to those who have already registered interest very shortly. The cost of the course is \$300. This is an increase in previous years due to increased operational and contractor costs.

DIETITIANS NEW ZEALAND – YOUR PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION



All registered dietitians are encouraged to join the Association as they work to raise the standard of dietetic practice in all areas and the profile of dietitians.

The **National Conference** is being held in Auckland **2 – 3 September 2019** - Themed 'Closing the Gap' the focus is on our most vulnerable communities. The event includes a mix of original research, topical debates and workshop style learning. With a speaker line-up that includes 2014 New Zealander of the Year Dr Lance O'Sullivan and business leader & entrepreneur Laura Humphreys, the conference is shaping up to be an exciting couple of days. Register [HERE!](#)

Kath Fouhy, General Manager is available via email at ceo@dietitians.org.nz or call her on +64 21 1044 416.

DIETITIANS BOARD POLICY – ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

The Board recently reviewed its policy concerning English Language proficiency requirements for applicants for registration with the Board and agreed to **remove** the following statement:

Graduates of a programme which is accredited to confer one of the Board's prescribed qualifications for the purposes of section 12 of the HPCA Act¹ are exempt from the requirements of this policy.

The Board wishes to ensure ALL Registered Dietitians practising in New Zealand can demonstrate they have the ability to communicate in and comprehend English sufficiently and effectively to protect the health and safety of the public. This is regardless of them completing a qualification delivered in New Zealand by one of the accredited dietetic education programmes.

What does this change mean?

¹ Postgraduate Diploma in Dietetics from University of Otago
Master of Dietetics from University of Otago
Master of Science (Nutrition and Dietetics) from Massey University
Master of Health Sciences in Nutrition and Dietetics from Auckland University

If English is not an individual's first language, then he/she must provide evidence of fitness for registration by demonstrating the following level of achievement in one of the two tests accepted by the Board for these purposes **before** registration can proceed.

- **International English Language Testing System (IELTS)** at the Academic level with an **overall score of 7.5 and a minimum of 7 in each band.**
- **Occupational English Test (OET) with A or B in all four sections.**

Test results must be dated within the 12 months preceding the Board's receipt of their application for Registration.

SUPERVISION

Please check you do not have a supervisor listed that should not be listed - it appears there are still some practitioners who have assigned their 'Professional' Supervisor.

Please remember there is no mandate to log your professional supervisor – the space on your dashboard is only for assigning **practice supervisors** as per the condition placed on your APC/Registration. Please check to ensure you have not inadvertently assigned a supervisor incorrectly – it may affect your renewal process if you do not remove them.

There is guidance in the blue box under the Supervision tab to assist you manage online supervision actions and also set up an email that goes to both the supervisor and the practitioner when a supervisor signs off to remind the practitioner that

- ❖ If the supervision period is now **complete**, practitioners under supervision need to **de-select** their supervisor.
- ❖ If the sign-off is due to a **change** in supervisor, practitioners need to **select** a **new** supervisor.

REMINDERS

- ❖ The Board's website has a SEARCH function
- ❖ A growing list of FAQs is also available

COMING UP

- ❖ Fee review consultation
- ❖ Naming policy consultation

STAFFING

The Secretariat has had some staffing changes over the past couple of months – currently our temporary Registration Officer is Michéle Prinsloo. Michéle is with us until Friday 12 July and from 15 July we will be joined by Ellie Boyd. Thank you for your patience as new staff come up to speed on policy and process.

NEXT BOARD MEETING THURSDAY 22 AUGUST 2019

If you have a matter you would like to raise with the Board please contact the Board's office at least 20 days prior to the meeting, to ensure it can be added to the agenda.

Should you have any questions about information held by the Board or about registration, holding an APC, MyCCP or supervision please contact the Board's office. Staff are happy to assist you meet your regulatory obligations and have their finger on the pulse of current policy and legislation.

Heoi anō tāku mō nāianeī - Ngā manaakitanga

Laila Cooper Chair of the Board - Sue Domanski Registrar



New Zealand Dietitians Board
Te Mana Mātanga Mātai Kai

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