



Dietitians Board

Te Mana Mātanga Mātai Kai

PAENGA-WHĀWHĀ 2020

RONGO PĀNUI

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



(L-R: Laila Cooper (Deputy Chair), Catherine Humphrey, Hiki Pihema, Tom Shand, Lizz Whittred (Registration Officer), Jordan Waiti, Jennifer Pelvin (Chair), Hebe Robinson (Registration Officer), Sue Domanski (Registrar), Louise Mainvil)

BOARD UPDATES

Tēnā koutou!

Whilst we are already into March we trust you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and returned to work rejuvenated! The Board met on 19th February with a focus on the year ahead, building cultural capability and the monitoring of the three New Zealand [dietetic education programmes](#).

COVID 19

The Board recognises that Registered Dietitians may face challenging circumstances as health services respond to COVID 19.

Please ensure you refer to a reputable source of information with regards Covid-19 – the Board's strong recommendation is to keep updated via the Ministry of Health's website. For the latest updates, information and advice go to: health.govt.nz/covid-19

CONSULTATIONS

NAMING POLICY CONSULTATION

The Dietitians Board recently sought feedback on its proposed **Naming Policy**. The need for the Board to develop a Naming Policy results from an amendment made by Parliament to the HPCAA in 2019. The new Naming Policy outlines how the Board may publish the name of a dietitian and the details of an order or direction made about that dietitian under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (HPCAA).

The Board received seven (7) submissions which included submissions from the Office of the Privacy Commissioner, Director-General of Health and the Health and Disability Commissioner; the submissions have been considered carefully. Some amendments have been made as a result of the submissions and the Board will publish the final document on its [Policy & Guidelines](#) section on the website before the required publication date of 11 April 2020. The Board appreciates the time taken by individuals and groups in making a submission.

SECRETARIAT STAFFING

REGISTRATION OFFICER

Hebe Robinson finished her contract on 28 February (heading back to University to continue her architecture qualification) but we are very pleased to advise that **Lizz Whittred** joined the Secretariat on 27 February in a permanent .7 position as Registration Officer. Lizz hails from Australia and has a background in dietetics and nutrition.

You can contact Lizz on registration.officer@dietitiansboard.org.nz or our Registrar, Sue, on dietitians@dietitiansboard.org.nz – we are always happy to take your call and assist you where we can. We have recently expanded the [FAQ](#) section on the website, so check there to see if your query can be answered in a couple of clicks.

ANNUAL DECLARATIONS FOR 2020/2021 – PRACTISING OR NON PRACTISING STATUS

The Annual Declaration period has commenced – all practitioners with an entry on the Register are required to make an annual declaration and pay the relevant fee.

Please note a fee increase has come into force and applies to fees payable relating to the period on and after **1 April 2020**.

Registered Practising (holding an APC) - **\$625**

Registered Non-Practising (usually made due to paternity leave, travel, taking a break – this status maintains your entry on the Register) - **\$90**

Please ensure that you make your declaration in plenty of time so you can be assured your APC is issued and you are ready to return to work from 1 April 2020.

HOLDING AN APC

There continues to be concern that some practitioners remain uncertain as to when they should hold an APC and what their obligations are if they have an entry on the Register. If you have an entry on the Register and work within the [Scope of Practice: Dietitian](#), regardless of your job title, you must hold an APC.

The requirement to hold an annual practising certificate is not restricted to provision of direct clinical care. It applies to any role that involves the safe, effective, delivery of services impacting on the public and, as such, includes part-time and voluntary work.

If you plan to take a break or retire from practice at any time you are still required to meet your obligations for the practising year you hold an APC.

If you are uncertain whether you should renew or hold an APC for 2020/2021 please read the Board's [GUIDELINES](#) or contact the office, Secretariat staff are here to help.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

The Secretariat staff have had numerous conversations with practitioners recently about CPD opportunities and activities. [The Professional Standards and Competencies for Dietitians](#) is a great reference for identifying areas for maintenance and development. The competency standards and core competencies reflect dietetic knowledge and skills that are used across practice settings. They are designed for a flexible workforce and highlight the diverse roles that Registered Dietitians may perform in any setting.

For example to maintain or enhance your knowledge around **4.2.3 Maintain confidentiality, privacy and security of client information** (a competency under Professionalism) there are some excellent online courses through the Office of the Privacy Commissioner - <https://elearning.privacy.org.nz/> - here are two free courses that might be useful:

Health 101 - covers all the material previously taught in the Health Information Privacy Code training workshops. The material aims to introduce the key concepts and definitions contained in the Health Information Privacy Code (HIPC) and how they may be applied in practice. It focuses on the 12 health information privacy rules contained in the Code and will consider how they apply in practice. The training takes approximately 3-4 hours and can be dipped in and out of as time permits.

Health ABC - a 30 minute introduction to protecting health information under the Health Information Privacy Code.

Looking to brush up on your Communication & Collaboration skillset to ensure your interaction with Māori is effective and respectful? (**2.1.3 Respect Tikanga when communicating with Māori**) – head to [Toro Mai](#) – Massey University run a couple of free online courses that will deepen your understanding and awareness of Māori knowledge and Te Reo.

If you are a member of Dietitians New Zealand connect with them for resources, suggestions, and access to professional development opportunities.

REFLECTING ON YOUR CPD

For those of you updating your CPD logs for the year in preparation for APC renewal the following questions may help you reflect

on your professional development activities:

- How has the professional development activity contributed to the development of my knowledge, skills or attitudes?
- How will, or can, I incorporate my new understanding/skill/attitude into my dietetic practice?
- How has my learning and development impacted others (my patients/clients/colleagues/service outcomes)?
- What additional learning do I need to undertake to further develop my skills and knowledge?

From 1 April 2020 a revised Credit Key will be available on the Dietitians Portal. This is in response to practitioner feedback. The Board has clarified the criteria for CPD credits and broadened the options for all dietetic practice contexts.

DIETITIAN PRESCRIBERS

Medsafe's publication, *Prescriber Update*, is essential for staying up to date on medicines safety issues. It's written for all New Zealand healthcare professionals and provides information on safety concerns with both medicines and medical devices. Medsafe publishes *Prescriber Update* four times a year on the [Medsafe website](#) and includes important information on:

- current and emerging safety issues
- recently funded medicines
- previous Medicines Adverse Reactions Committee meeting
- individual cases of adverse reactions reported to the Centre for Adverse Reaction Monitoring (Gathering Knowledge)
- what Medsafe does (The Medsafe Files).

Medsafe emails subscribers when a new edition of *Prescriber Update* is published. Medsafe also emails safety communications to subscribers about emerging safety information. Subscribing is free – sign up at: www.medsafe.govt.nz/profs/subscribe.asp

ANNUAL PRESCRIBER UPDATE

The 2019/2020 Annual Prescriber Update on MOODLE is a requirement of all prescribing dietitians and can be found at <http://nzdb.onlearn.co.nz/>. Remember to add this completed activity to your MyCCP logs.

PRESCRIBER PEER REVIEW

It is strongly recommended that all active prescribers include a peer review of their prescribing as part of their practice/peer review. A template *Prescribing Peer Review* is available under the 'practice/peer review' tab on the CPD platform.

NEW PRESCRIBER TRAINING

From 2020 onwards the Board will no longer be developing and delivering the **New Prescriber Training Course**. A training course is currently being co-developed by The University of Auckland and Massey University dietetic programmes and will be available for registered dietitians seeking to become a Dietitian Prescriber with a proposed workshop date of 14 August 2020. At this early stage we ask you to **please register your interest via the Board**.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The Board sought 'Expressions of Interest' (EOI) from practitioners in December for:

- **CPD Audit Team Members**
- **MCQ Moderator**
- **Prescribing Expert Advisory Group**

Appointments for the CPD Audit team and the MCQ Moderator position have now been made and the Board was pleased with the level of interest and expertise for the positions.

The Board has developed Terms of Reference for the Prescribing Expert Advisory Group and will be setting this group up very soon.

If interested in undertaking any contract work for the Board please contact the Registrar for more information - dietitians@dietitiansboard.org.nz

ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report is now available online – it can be found [HERE](#)

DIETITIANS NEW ZEALAND – A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR DIETITIANS

2020 Conference

Dietitians NZ is holding its 2020 Conference in Christchurch on 19th and 20th August - For more information and general enquiries **Kath Fouhy, General Manager** is available via email at ceo@dietitians.org.nz or call her on +64 21 1044 416.



HEALTH WORKFORCE SECTOR UPDATE

The Ministry of Health send out a regular Health Workforce Sector Update – you can find it [HERE](#)

BOARD MEETINGS 2020

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.

Meetings in 2020 are:

- May 12/13
- August 19
- November 11/12

NB: The Board may undertake some meetings via Zoom to mitigate any risks during the uncertainty around COVID 19.

Should you have any questions about information held by the Board or about registration, holding an APC, CPD or supervision requirements 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

***Jennifer Pelvin* Chair of the Board - *Sue Domanski* Registrar**

New Zealand Dietitians Board
Te Mana Mātanga Mātai Kai

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