

Vital Signs

Thank you for your support



Our Voice

Media

Kate Baddock, Chair of the NZMA spoke with [Newstalk](#) on the Otago Medical Students electives issue as well as [NZ Doctor](#).

Jan White, NZMA Chair of the GPC, spoke with [NZ Doctor](#) on the primary care role, [Climate Change and getting involved](#), and on changes to [cervical screening](#).

DIARY

NZMA Chair Kate Baddock, Chair of the GPC Jan White and CEO Lesley Clarke attended a General Practice Leaders' Forum workshop hosted at NZMA House. This was followed the next day by a GPLF meeting chaired by Kate, whereby GPLF met with Anna Clark, Ministry of Health Deputy Director General, Health Workforce, then members of the Health and Disability System Review advisory team and followed by the Community Pharmacy Leaders Forum.

Kate and Lesley also met with the NZ Nurses Organisation.

CURRENT CONSULTATIONS

Have your say and help inform NZMA's feedback on:

1. NZMA Code of Ethics
2. WorkSafe Safe & Healthy Shiftwork
3. MBIE review of ACC Cost of Treatment Regulations
4. Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission Bill

Further detail on how to feedback below.



CLINICAL TEACHING NOMINATIONS CLOSE THIS SUNDAY GET YOUR NOMINATION IN!

Have you worked with someone who is an excellent clinical teacher?

Make time to say thank you and nominate them!

The New Zealand Medical Association (NZMA) and New Zealand Medical Students' Association (NZMSA) established the New Zealand Medical Teaching Awards to:

- recognise the positive impact doctors are making
- encourage the development of a positive clinical teaching culture and environment for the benefits of students, staff and ultimately patients.

Your nominations will recognise those doctors in New Zealand who are giving back, developing and encouraging students in what we all know is a challenging profession.

Get behind our teachers building a positive teaching culture - [nominate them](#)

[now!](#)

Nominations close on Sunday 24 November midnight.



YOUR THOUGHTS PLEASE TO INFORM OUR WORKSAFE SAFE AND HEALTHY SHIFTWORK SUBMISSION

WorkSafe is conducting a targeted consultation on [guidance for safe and healthy shiftwork](#).

The purpose of the guidance is to support Persons Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBUs) to eliminate or minimise the health and safety risks associated with shiftwork. The draft guide covers the following:

- what shiftwork is, and the risks associated with it
- shiftwork risk management systems
- tools and resources that may be useful to PCBUs.

Email feedback to [Sanji](#) by close of play Friday 29 November.



**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**
HĪKINA WHAKATUTUKI

ACC & COST OF TREATMENT REGULATIONS: YOUR FEEDBACK WANTED

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment is [consulting](#) on a review of

how ACC purchases health services through the Cost of Treatment Regulations (CoTR). This year's proposed changes include:

1. Implementing a general increase of 2.05% for regulated treatment payments, and an increase of 1.72% for payments to Radiologists and providers of Hyperbaric Oxygen.
2. Creating individual profession groups from the group currently known as 'Specified Treatment Providers' and specifying payment rates for each (physiotherapists, chiropractors, occupational therapists etc.). These rates will remain identical for the current period, but future pricing recommendations could specify different payment rates for each profession, if appropriate.
3. Removing provisions that reduce ACC's contribution for dental treatment on teeth that have had previous non-injury related work.

Our submission from last year on increasing regulated ACC payments for treatment [is here](#).

Email feedback to [Sanji](#) by close of play Monday 2 December.



HEALTH COMMITTEE: MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING COMMISSION BILL, YOUR VIEWS SOUGHT

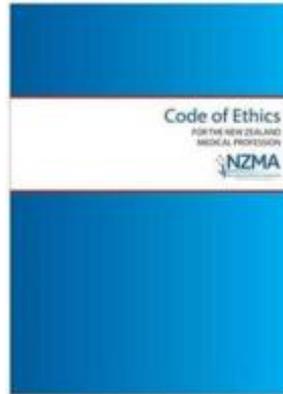
The Health Committee has called for submissions on the [Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission Bill](#). This Bill stems from the recommendation in the Report of the Government Inquiry into Mental Health and Addiction.

The Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission would:

- provide system-level oversight of mental health and wellbeing in New Zealand
- promote alignment, collaboration and communication between government and non-government contributors to mental health and wellbeing
- monitor and advocate for the collective mental health and wellbeing of New Zealanders.

The commission would be established as an independent Crown entity to ensure its independence from the Government of the day.

Email feedback to [Sanji](#) by close of play Monday 2 December.



NZMA CODE OF ETHICS REVIEW - YOUR VIEWS SOUGHT

There was a large amount of feedback on the second round of consultation on the review of the NZMA Code of Ethics. In view of this the publication of the updated Code was deferred.

The NZMA Ethics Committee has now completed consideration of all feedback received and is conducting a third round of consultation on a proposed [final draft](#) of the code.

Amendments that have been made following the second round of consultation are shown in red. All feedback will be passed to the Ethics Committee who will convene again early next year to finalise the Code which will be presented for adoption at the NZMA Council in May 2020.

If you wish to provide any further feedback, could you please provide your comments to [Sanji](#) by **Friday 31 January 2020**.



NZMA BOARD MEDICAL STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE 2019

Election for NZMA Board Medical Student representative position continues.

Meet the [candidates](#).

Individualised voting logins have been emailed to those eligible to vote (NZMA medical student members in 2020).

[Email Us](#) for more information.



2019 DITC PGY1 REPRESENTATIVE ELECTION UNDERWAY

Remember to vote

PGY1 Representative position on the Doctors-in-Training Council election is underway.

Those eligible to vote will have received an individualised voting login (NZMA PGY1 members in 2020).

Read about your 2019 PGY1 [candidates](#).

[Email Us](#) for more information.



RURAL GP NETWORK WELCOMES COMMITMENT TO RURAL HEALTH WORKFORCE

The New Zealand General Practice Network has welcomed a commitment to addressing a rural health workforce crisis in the National Party's Education Discussion document.

Read the full release [here](#).



HDC REPORT INTO RESEARCH INVOLVING ADULT PARTICIPANTS UNABLE TO PROVIDE INFORMED CONSENT

This week the Health & Disability Commissioner, Anthony Hill [released a report](#) about possible changes to the rules governing the circumstances when research can occur that involves adult participants who are unable to provide informed consent.

NZMA put forward a [submission](#) on this that includes the following points:

- New Zealand's laws regarding the research of patients who are unable to provide informed consent are too restrictive.
- there should be a broadening of the current restriction on research involving adult patients who are unable to provide informed consent in line with the WMA Declaration of Helsinki-Ethical Principles for Medical Research involving human subjects.
- current restrictions diminish the rights of persons who cannot consent to participate in research by depriving them of the class benefits arising from the gains in healthcare that are the result of good clinical research.

The Commissioner has noted a number of recommendations to the Minister of Health to consider. If introduced, these changes would provide more clarity about when health and disability research involving people who cannot give informed consent to participate could occur.

At this stage further public consultation would be required before any changes could be made to the Code. The full report, including the Commissioner's recommendations, is available [here](#).



Te Kaunihera
Rata o
Aotearoa

**Medical
Council of
New Zealand**

RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOCATIONALLY-REGISTERED DOCTORS

The Medical Council of New Zealand has released strengthened *Recertification requirements for vocationally-registered doctors in New Zealand*.

You can access the document detailing the requirements [here](#).

Quote of the week

*Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.
Henry David Thoreau*

CLASSIFIED ADS and situations vacant

*NZMA offers members free classifieds and vacancy advertisements.
Check out NZMJ website's [Vacancies page](#) and you may just find your dream opportunity.*

Latest vacancies and classifieds include the following - just click on the vacancy/classified ad to be taken to the full ad:

Vacancies

- [General Practitioner - Part-time, Long term | Lower Hutt \(Closes 20 December\)](#)
- [Associate Editors for the NZMJ | Christchurch](#)
- [General Practitioner 1/10th \(neg\) | Auckland \(Closes 7 December\)](#)
- [Part-time GP wanted in Mapua, Nelson \(Closes 4 December 2019\)](#)
- [Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist | Whangarei \(Closes 29 November 2019\)](#)
- [1-2 GPs Required | Mission Bay \(Closes 13 December\)](#)
- [Consultant Physician | New Plymouth \(Closes 30 November 2019\)](#)

Classifieds

- [GP partnership for sale | Nelson City](#)
- [Shareholding for sale in Auckland Medical Centre](#)
- [Due to Retirement - Partnership Share Buy-In Opportunity | Kerikeri \(Closes 12 December\)](#)

Members advertise for free - [classifieds](#) and/or vacancies [via Hotline](#).



UPCOMING EVENTS

View our upcoming health sector events - go to the [NZMA events page on our website](#) for the full list.



MED CAN 2020

18-19 March 2020

New Zealand's first medicinal cannabis summit

[MedCan 2020](#) will bring together leading experts, scientists, clinicians, entrepreneurs, investors, policy makers and thought leaders to share first-hand insights and up-to-date information about the world of medicinal cannabis.

The summit has been created to inspire and inform:

- Healthcare professionals
- Patients
- Academics
- Researchers
- Government officials
- Business
- Investors
- Entrepreneurs and innovators
- Growers

For further information please contact:
Donna Clapham, Workz4U Conference Management



AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND GENERAL MEDICINE UPDATE

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AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND GENERAL MEDICINE UPDATE 2020

20-22 March 2020

How do you keep your knowledge and skills up to date?

The world of medicine is evolving more rapidly than ever before.

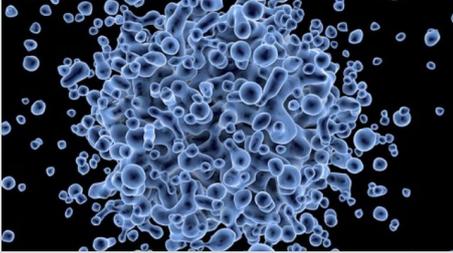
The annual 'Australia and New Zealand General Medicine Update' (ANZGMU) has been specifically designed to showcase a curated selection of relevant topics in internal medicine with updated information about new strategies, evolving best practise and recent guidelines.

Over a period of three days, national and internationally renowned subspecialty experts with strong academic backgrounds will discuss the common diseases seen by a general physician in everyday practice. With over 21 interactive lectures covering the core areas of various subspecialties of internal medicine, this 2020 update will be of immense value to the busy practising General Physician, General Medicine Advanced Trainee and Basic Physician Trainee who wish to update their clinical acumen.

[Click here to learn more and register](#)



MEMBER BENEFITS



NZMA MEMBERS NO COST ADVERTISING

NZMA offers members the opportunity to place vacancies for personnel in the NZMJ and Vital Signs free of charge.

Reach the medical professionals you want as many do week on week.



CINEMA DISCOUNTS

As a benefit for being a member of NZMA we are now offering discounted movie vouchers through cinematickets.co.nz.

Discount prices: Adult \$13.50 & Child/senior \$11 (Minimum purchase 2 tickets)

1. Go to cinematickets.co.nz
2. Enter your ACCESS CODE: **nzma1**
3. Add vouchers to cart
3. Checkout and pay
5. Vouchers will be emailed to you
6. Then go to eventcinemas.co.nz or rialto.co.nz and use the e-voucher code number and pin at the top of your vouchers when booking (there may be a booking fee if booking online) or go to the cinema and present your e-voucher on your phone or printed hardcopy when purchasing tickets
7. *Enjoy!*

PLEASE NOTE: Vouchers are valid for 12 months.
Upgrades apply for 3D/VMAX/IMX/Cinema Deluxe.

Member Advisory Service

Bad debt syndrome

Like most diseases, bad debt syndrome is easier to prevent than cure. The NZMA has a written article for our members on the bad debt problem, how it can best be

prevented and collection methods.

These flyers are available for members to download from the [NZMA advisory service](#) on our website. You must be logged in to view and/or download these flyers, or you can [email Robyn](#) for copies.

- *Bad Debt Syndrome – prevention is better than debt collection*

Vital Signs is your weekly bulletin about the NZMA and 'what's hot'.

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