



**MEDICAL SCIENCES COUNCIL  
OF NEW ZEALAND**

TE KAUNIHERA PŪTAIAO HAUORA O AOTEAROA

**MSC  
NEWS**

## TE HEAMANA/FROM THE CHAIR

Tēnā koutou katoa,

Ko te whakaaro nui kei te ora koutou me ngā whānau  
I hope you are all well and your whānau.

*It's with a strong sense of déjà vu that I am writing another piece for the Medical Sciences Council newsletter during a surge in pandemic numbers, yet again with our medical laboratory science and anaesthetic technology practitioners at the forefront of the efforts in the fight against COVID-19. I would like to acknowledge your ongoing hard work and commitment, as well as offer my continuing appreciation.*

*Keeping in the mind the increased work pressures, it is still important for practitioners to renew their APC's in a timely manner as possible to reduce any potential stress later on. APC renewals are open until 31 March 2022.*

Noho ora mai koutou, ki ngā kainga maha  
Stay safe and well in your homes.

Ngā mihi,

Brett Besley  
MSC Chair

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### YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

*Once you are registered, you have a legal requirement to notify the Council of any changes to your residential, postal or work address within one month of the change. You can do this by logging into "My Profile" on the website.*

### COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITY

*The primary responsibility of the Council is to protect the health and safety of the New Zealand public by ensuring practitioners registered in the professions of medical laboratory science, and anaesthetic technology are competent and fit to practise.*

## ***APC renewals***

The renewal process for your 2022/2023 APC opened on 16 February 2022 and remains open until COB 31 March 2022.

### **RESETTING YOUR PASSWORD:**

If you have forgotten your password, you can use the “Forgotten Password” option to reset it. There are two ways you can reset your password:

- via the email address registered with the Council and we will send you a link to reset your password; or
- via text message.

If you have forgotten your password and you do not have access to the email address registered with the Council and/or your mobile number is not up to date, email the Council’s staff at [msc@medsci.co.nz](mailto:msc@medsci.co.nz) and they will update your details.

### **MAKING A PAYMENT:**

There are two ways you can pay for your APC:

- Credit card;
- Internet banking (enter your registration number in the reference box)

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## ***COVID-19 Vaccination Order***

Please note that under the ministerial COVID-19 Vaccination Order, all healthcare practitioners were required to have a booster by 11:59pm Thursday 24 February 2022, if eligible.

As registered health practitioners under the Act, this includes all medical laboratory science and anaesthetic technology practitioners. For more information please see the Ministry of Health’s website.

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## ***Provisional Vaccinator Course***

The 2022 provisional vaccinator course run by IMAC is now open. Provisional vaccinators can administer MMR and influenza vaccines. If you wish to also administer the Paediatric Pfizer vaccine or AstraZeneca vaccine, you must complete the appropriate COVID-19 vaccinator education course. You can view the suite of COVID-19 vaccination courses [here](#).

### **Accessing the course**

To access the course, you will have needed to provide a code by your employer or provider you intend to work for. Please do not contact IMAC directly. Any questions about access or eligibility can be directed to the IMAC education team at [imacetadmin@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:imacetadmin@auckland.ac.nz).

## ***Critical Work - Omicron outbreak***

In lieu of the ever-changing Omicron outbreak, Medical Sciences Secretariat advises that in the instance of the majority of its staff being sick with COVID-19, only critical work will be completed. Critical work has been identified as the following:

The registration team's priorities will be:

- APC renewals
- New Zealand registration
- Matters relating to the government's COVID health response e.g., interim APCs for the COVID surge workforce.
- Risk assessment for any new professional standard cases
- Responding to queries – during the period that only critical work is completed, email communication will be the preferred method of contact and will take precedence over phone calls.

Overseas registration applicants with a current job offer and who can provide evidence of meeting immigration requirements into New Zealand will be prioritised over all other overseas registration applications.

Communication priorities:

Updating the website on any regulation or Ministry of Health communiques.

During the 'red light' setting in the COVID Protection Framework, all staff will be working from home and the office is now closed until further notice.

Tēnā te katoa,

Kei te whakarite ake ngā tini āhuatanga mo te omakona, kua whakatau Te Rangatapu Putaiao ā Rongoa na, mena ka pa te mate Korona -19, whakatio, noho kainga katira , Ko ngā tangata kei te ora pai tonu tiaki pai ahakoa I tērā me pikau tonu i ngā mahi.

Ko ngā mahi me whai tonu :

- APC renewals
- New Zealand registration
- Matters relating to the government's COVID health response e.g., interim APCs for the COVID surge workforce.
- Risk assessment for any new professional standard cases
- Responding to queries – during the period that only critical work is completed, email communication will be the preferred method of contact and will take precedence over phone calls.

Ko ngā rehita mai tāwahi kua whai mana ā, kua tātū he mahi tūtūru me taea te whakaatu mai ngā Kaupapa pepa e hangai ai ki tā te Ratonga Manene ki Aotearoa otira, ko enei ngā tuatahi ka titirotia i mua rawa ētahi atu rehita o tawahi.