



**MEDICAL SCIENCES COUNCIL
OF NEW ZEALAND**

TE KAUNIHERA PŪTAIAO HAUORA O AOTEAROA

**MSC
NEWS**

TE HEAMANA/FROM THE CHAIR

Tēnā tātou katoa,

I recently attended the NZIMLS South Island Seminar in Timaru – thank you to NZIMLS for the opportunity to present on behalf of the Medical Sciences Council. It was a great chance to connect with frontline practitioners, whom I might not otherwise meet in daily practice. Following the seminar, I came away with two key thoughts:

- Firstly, I was impressed with the practitioner’s commitment to developing ongoing knowledge-based technical evidence; meaning that continuing professional development (CPD) standards are well entrenched.
- Secondly, that there were a variety of presenters (including non-medical science practitioners) delivering high quality content to a receptive and engaged audience.

I acknowledge that not all practitioners are able to attend these events, but I encourage practitioners to engage with these opportunities if possible. As a reminder, keeping up to date with current technology advancements and practices continues to be crucial to your ongoing commitment to public safety.

If you haven’t been able to attend and unsure on what continuing professional development activities you could do, I would refer you to the Council’s CPD policy and the below information regarding the required CPD hours.

On another note, with winter just around the corner and with it the usual illnesses, I would urge you to take care of yourselves in the best way you are able.

Ngā mihi,

Brett Besley
MSC Chair

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.

Message from the Chief Executive

Kia ora koutou

Like the chair I was also recently able to attend an NZIMLS forum and was very impressed by the quality and variety of presentations. It was a pleasure to meet a number of practitioners from across Aotearoa and to listen and talk with them about their work. I was impressed with their passion for their professions. I look forward to meeting more of you over the course of the next few months.

As practitioners maintaining competence is integral to the health and safety of the public, the Council sets the minimum standards required of all practitioners for continuing development which not only includes clinical and technical competence, but also cultural competence. The Council is developing a list of cultural competence education resources for practitioners that will be added to the website in due course.

As Chief Executive I take my responsibilities for the health, safety and wellbeing of my staff very seriously. Recently, there have been incidents when communication with the staff team by a small number of practitioners has not been of the standard required.

My request to practitioners is that when writing to or phoning the Council that the staff are treated with respect. They are there to help you with your application processes and questions, and I expect this is conducted in a professional manner by practitioners and staff.

The Council's Code of Ethical Conduct outlines a practitioner's professional obligation to communicate in a respectful and collaborative manner with colleagues both within the profession and the wider healthcare setting, which includes the Council's staff. Any abuse directed towards staff may result in you being referred to the Council.

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini - Success is not the work of one but the work of many.



Dr Susan Calvert | Chief Executive

EOI Māori Practitioners Advisory Committee

Thank you to those who submitted an expression of interest for the Māori Practitioners Advisory Committee. The Council will consider the applications received and will advise successful applicants shortly. The Council will provide further communique on the membership of the committee and meeting schedule in due course.

Introduction from the Communications and Projects Team



Miriam Brown - Communications and Projects Manager

Miriam (BA Psychology) has been with the Council for five years and in this time has worked on numerous projects and publications. She has a background in case management and health regulation and thrives on engaging with practitioners and stakeholders across various platforms. In her spare time, you'll often find her indulging in her favourite activities. Whether she's horse riding, lacing up her running shoes, or exploring the breath-taking trails of Te-Whanganui-a-Tara, she embraces the outdoors as a source of rejuvenation and inspiration.



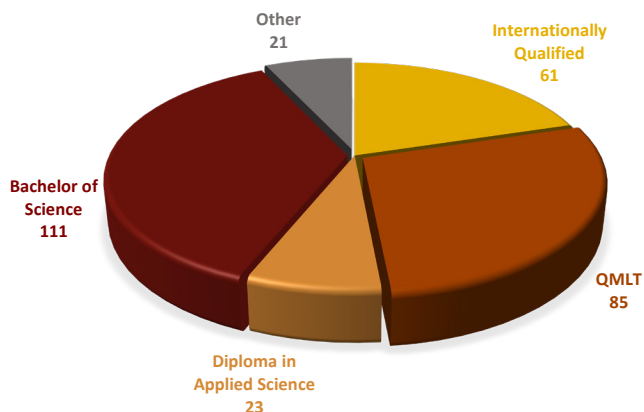
Devon Davies - Communications and Projects Coordinator

Devon is a recent graduate from Massey University, Palmerston North with a BSc in Mathematics. She has a special interest in statistical analysis and is passionate about all things communications. In her spare time, Devon enjoys regular gym sessions and being in the great outdoors. You'll find Devon's friendly face at various conferences later this year – please don't hesitate to say kia ora!

Approved Registrations 2022/2023

The below graphs outline the total number of approved registrations between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 and which registration pathway they were approved through:

MLPAT/MLT REGISTRATIONS BY REGISTRATION PATHWAY
1 APRIL 2022-31 MARCH 2023



Key:

MLPAT: Medical Laboratory Pre-Analytical Technician

MLT: Medical Laboratory Technician

MLS: Medical Laboratory Scientist

QMLT: Qualified Medical Laboratory Technician certificate from the New Zealand Institute of Medical Laboratory Science.

Internationally Qualified: Overseas qualification which was assessed and considered substantially equivalent to the New Zealand prescribed qualification.

Diploma in Applied Science: New Zealand Diploma in Applied Science (Level 5) from ARA Institute of Canterbury.

Bachelor of Science: New Zealand Bachelor of Science degree in a relevant biological science which was assessed and considered substantially equivalent to a New Zealand prescribed qualification.

Other: New Zealand qualification e.g., a qualification in a relevant biological science which was assessed and considered substantially equivalent to a New Zealand prescribed qualification.

Online Examination: When an applicant's overseas qualification is assessed as not being substantially equivalent to the NZ prescribed qualification, an applicant may be offered the opportunity to sit a registration examination.

BMLSc: Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science from Auckland University of Technology or the University of Otago.

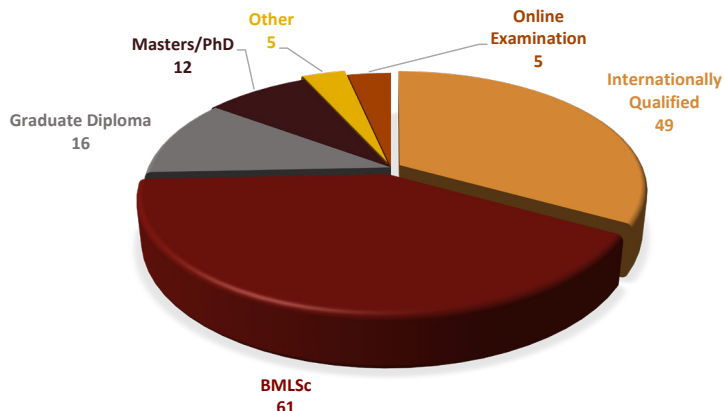
Graduate Diploma: Graduate Diploma in Science from Auckland University of Technology or the Postgraduate Diploma in Health Science (Medical Laboratory Science) from Massey University.

Masters/PhD: A relevant New Zealand Masters or PhD qualification which the Council has assessed and considers meets the requirements for registration.

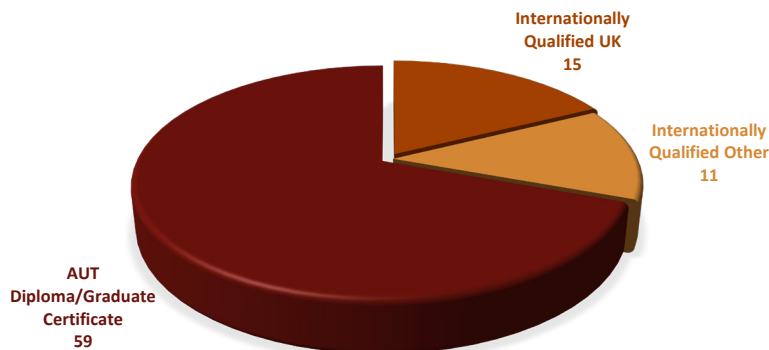
AUT Diploma/Graduate Certificate: Diploma in Applied Sciences (Anaesthetic Technology) or the Graduate Certificate in Applied Sciences (Anaesthetic Technology) from Auckland University of Technology.

Internationally Qualified UK: Qualification in Operating Department Practice from the the UK.

MLS REGISTRATIONS BY REGISTRATION PATHWAY
1 APRIL 2022-31 MARCH 2023



ANAESTHETIC TECHNICIAN REGISTRATIONS BY REGISTRATION PATHWAY
1 APRIL 2022-31 MARCH 2023



MLS Scope of Practice Review Update

The Council's staff have recently met with three main stakeholder groups – education providers, unions and professional bodies to discuss the medical laboratory science scope of practice review and staff are currently formulating their advice for the Council for discussion at their August meeting. We expect following this meeting further updates will be provided.

Conference Attendance

The Council is pleased to advise that they will be attending the following conferences:

- South Pacific Congress 16-18 August in Auckland
- Anaesthesia ASM and NZATS 9-11 November in Dunedin

Thank you to NZATS for the opportunity to present at the recent NZATS Symposium and to NZIMLS for the opportunity to present at the South and North Island Seminars.

Continuing Professional Development

As a reminder, there will be **NO AUDIT** in 2023. The next audit will be completed in 2024, and will cover the 2022-2023 biennium. However, all practitioners are still required to engage in CPD. In readiness for the 2024 audit, practitioners must ensure their two years of CPD for 2022 and 2023 meets the minimum hours requirement:

	Minimum CPD hours over the biennium	Minimum CPD hours in any one year	What you need to do for the 2022-2023 biennium	
MLS	40	15		If you only completed 15 hours of CPD in 2022, you will need to complete 25 hours in 2023 in order to meet the 40 hours required for the 2024 audit.
MLT/MLPAT	24	9	Undertake the full amount of CPD hours specified and ensure you keep a clear record of the activities you have undertaken.	If you only completed 9 hours of CPD in 2022, you will need to complete 15 hours in 2023 in order to meet the 24 hours required for the 2024 audit.
AT	40	15		If you only completed 15 hours of CPD in 2022, you will need to complete 25 hours in 2023 in order to meet the 40 hours required for the 2024 audit.

Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal Decision - Anaesthetic Technician

As directed by the Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal the Medical Sciences Council is publishing the decision and a link to the [summary](#).