

Call for expressions of interest

Te Kaunihera Pūtaiao Hauora o Aotearoa | The Medical Sciences Council (the Council) has a responsibility under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (the Act) to protect the health and safety of the public of Aotearoa | New Zealand by providing mechanisms to ensure that practitioners are fit and competent to practise. The Council has specific responsibilities under the Act to specify scopes of practice, prescribe qualifications and to set standards of clinical and cultural competence including those that enable effective and respectful interaction with Māori.

The Council is currently undertaking a review of the [Medical Laboratory Science scopes of practice](#). However, before the Council completes its review of the scopes it has agreed that there is a need to seek expert advice from the sector in order to ensure that the gazetted scopes are contemporary and ensure the safety of the public.

Expressions of interest are now being sought from registered medical laboratory science practitioners from all scopes of practice, to become part of an advisory group that will provide advice to the Council. Medical laboratory science practitioners wishing to apply must

- hold a current Annual Practising Certificate
- be in good standing with the Council.

Members with involvement in education, practitioner groups and all medical laboratory science professions will be included.

The Advisory Group will also be working collaboratively with Te Ama Tōtika, the Council's Māori practitioner advisory committee.

What will you be required to do?

Time/location commitment

It is expected that there will be up to four full-day meetings, which will be held in Wellington. In addition to face-to-face attendance at meetings, there may be a need for preparation which can include review of documentation and additional online meetings. The first meeting is anticipated to be held in mid-December 2024, which will be a short online meeting.

The Committee will be supported by the Medical Sciences Council secretariat staff.

The Council expects that the work of the advisory committee will be completed by June 2025.

Advice/expertise

The Council is seeking expressions of interest from practitioners with knowledge and skills in medical laboratory science practice and from those who can bring an education, management or quality and safety lenses to enhance discussion. Experience with policy development is advantageous but not essential. Membership will also consider other criteria such as geographic spread and employment situation.

Expected outcomes include:

1. Completion of the review of the [scope of practice of Medical Laboratory Science](#)

2. Depending on the outcome of the scope of practice review, a review of the qualifications required and [Competence Standards for Medical Laboratory Science Practitioners in Aotearoa | New Zealand \(2018\)](#) may be undertaken.

Compensation

Membership of the advisory group is paid, and all representatives will be paid in alignment with the Council's fee structure.

All travel and accommodation, if required, is booked, and paid for by the Medical Sciences Council.

If you are interested in being a part of the expert advisory group:

- Please email msscconsultations@medsci.co.nz by the close of business on **Thursday 14 November 2024** with your expression of interest. This should include your name, a summary of your recent positions and experience, a brief overview of why you want to be considered for this group and a copy of your CV.
- If you have any questions or wish to receive a copy of the draft terms of reference, please do not hesitate to contact us at msscconsultations@medsci.co.nz.