



COPY

## **Submission - Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Report Review**

**FEBRUARY 2009**

**Submission to:**

**Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act Review**

Debbie Taylor

Group Manager

Strategic Workforce Development Unit

Health & Disability Systems Strategy Directorate

**Contact for this submission:**

Professor Jenny Carryer, RN, PhD, FCNA (NZ), MNZM

Executive Director

College of Nurses (Aotearoa)

Clinical Chair of Nursing

Massey University / Mid Central District Health Board

PO Box 1258

PALMERSTON NORTH

Tel: 027 4491302

Email: [J.B.Carryer@massey.ac.nz](mailto:J.B.Carryer@massey.ac.nz)

This submission was prepared by Judy Yarwood and Debbie Penlington on behalf of the College of Nurses (Aotearoa) and the College welcomes the opportunity to provide comments on the recommendations of the report.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

---

### **Questions on the proposed recommendations of the Review of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act**

#### **Chapter 2: Overall**

**Recommendation 1: Agree.** The Act is working relatively well, although costs of operating the Act remain problematic. It is good to see this review will lead to these issues being addressed

#### **Chapter 3: Communication and engagement for stakeholders**

**Recommendation 2: Agree.** The College of Nurses Aotearoa (The College) strongly supports the need for the public to be better informed as there are many who have little idea about the purpose and functions of the Act. This is particularly so in areas where vulnerable people remain at risk of an unregulated and unregistered workforce, eg Elder care

**Recommendation 3: Agree.** The College would like to see processes in place to ensure clear communication between practitioners, RA's, DHBs and other employing agencies when it comes to reviewing scopes of practice.

**Recommendation 4: Agree.** Again transparency of processes is urged.

**Recommendation 5: Agree.**

#### **Chapter 4: Collaboration among responsible authorities**

**Recommendation 6: Agree.** The College agrees in principle however, any proposed development that is likely to change the intent of what is current practice within New Zealand would need full exploration of the implications for New Zealand employers and nurses.

**Recommendation 7: Agree.** Comments as stated in Recommendation 6 applicable here

**Recommendation 8: Agree.**

#### **Chapter 5: The Ministry of Health's role**

**Recommendation 9: Agree.** We acknowledge the need to appoint members to responsible authorities however the College believes that skilled educators must be included among appointees to responsible authorities as the authority's role includes overseeing related educational activities.

**Recommendation 10: Agree.**

**Recommendation 11: Agree.**

**Recommendation 12: Agree.**



**Recommendation 13: Agree.** The College supports the move toward consistency of reporting across all responsible authorities, a move which will provide transparency of processes, an aim of the Health Ministry.

**Recommendation 14: Agree.** Comments as stated in recommendation 13 are applicable here, and the College fully supports the move to have access and confidence in up to date accurate work force data

#### **Chapter 6: Extension to the Act to further groups of practitioners**

**Recommendation 15: Agree.**

**Recommendation 16: Agree.**

**Recommendation 17: Agree.**

**Recommendation 18: Agree.**

**Recommendation 20: Agree.**

#### **Chapter 7: Complaints and disciplinary matters**

**Recommendation 19: Agree.**

**Recommendation 20: Agree.**

**Recommendation 21: Agree.**

**Recommendation 22: Agree.**

**Recommendation 23: Agree.**

**Recommendation 24: Agree.**

**Recommendation 25: Agree.**

**Recommendation 26: Agree**

**Recommendation 27: Agree**

#### **Chapter 8: Protected quality assurance**

**Recommendation 28: Agree**

**Recommendation 29: Agree.**

**Recommendation 30: Agree**

**Recommendation 31: Agree** The College considers research into the value and use of protected quality assurance activities to be vital.

#### **Chapter 9: Other issues for consideration**

**Recommendation 32: Agree.** Agreement is given with caution as an emergency in a prolonged emergency such as a pandemic is open to interpretation and therefore abuse

**Recommendation 33: Agree**

**Recommendation 34: Agree**

**Recommendation 35: Agree**

**Recommendation 36: Agree**

**Recommendation 37: Agree**

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit comments on this report.

Judy Yarwood RN, MA (Hons) Dip Tchg (Tertiary)

Debbie Penlington RN, BA (Nsg), M Ed, Grad. Cert in Career Development, FCNA(NZ)

