



COLLEGE OF NURSES AOTEAROA (NZ) Inc

P O Box 1258  
Palmerston North 4440  
P: (06) 358 6000  
E: [admin@nurse.org.nz](mailto:admin@nurse.org.nz)  
[www.nurse.org.nz](http://www.nurse.org.nz)

And



*Nurse Practitioners  
New Zealand*

**Nurse Practitioners New Zealand**

*A division of the College of Nurses Aotearoa (NZ) Inc*

24 February 2016

**Feedback On - Consultation on amendment of the Medicines (Standing Order) Regulations to enable optometrists with therapeutic pharmaceutical agents endorsement to issue standing orders**

**Submission to:** Alison Hussey  
Senior Advisor, Nursing  
Office of the Chief Nurse  
Ministry of Health  
PO Box 5013  
Wellington 6145  
[Alison\\_hussey@moh.govt.nz](mailto:Alison_hussey@moh.govt.nz)

**Contact:** Professor Jenny Carryer RN PhD FCNA(NZ) MNZM  
Executive Director  
College of Nurses Aotearoa (NZ) Inc  
[J.B.Carryer@massey.ac.nz](mailto:J.B.Carryer@massey.ac.nz)

**Consultation on amendment of the Medicines (Standing Order) Regulations to enable optometrists with therapeutic pharmaceutical agents endorsement to issue standing orders**

Please respond to the questions below.

1. What do you see as the potential benefits of an amendment to the Regulations to authorise optometrists with therapeutic pharmaceutical agents endorsement to issue standing orders **now** rather than as part of the review of the regulatory regime for therapeutic products?

Where Optometrists are authorised prescribers it is consistent with the current regulatory regime established by the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 that they should be able to write standing orders. The benefits are access, efficiency and patient convenience.

2. What do you see as the potential risks of an amendment to the Regulations to authorise optometrists with therapeutic pharmaceutical agents endorsement to issue standing orders **now** rather than as part of the review of the regulatory regime for therapeutic products?

No risks. Those optometrists who are authorised prescribers should have the appropriate education, clinical experience and knowledge to be able to issue and monitor standing orders.

3. Please provide examples to show the implications of an amendment to the Regulations to authorise optometrists with therapeutic pharmaceutical agents endorsement to issue standing orders **now** rather than as part of the review of the regulatory regime for therapeutic products?

Given the need to speed this amendment to the regulations for Nurse Practitioners has been established and agreed it would seem pragmatic and efficient to address this one at the same time regardless of specific examples.



Professor Jenny Carryer RN PhD FCNA(NZ) MNZM  
Executive Director  
College of Nurses Aotearoa (NZ) Inc



Jane Jeffcoat RN NP MN (Hons)  
Chair  
Nurse Practitioners New Zealand