

The Psychotherapists Board of Aotearoa New Zealand

Te Poari o nga Kaihaumanu Hinengaro o Aotearoa



May 2017

This issue brings you up to date with Board related work since our last newsletter in March 2017

*Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi
With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive*

*Tēnā tātou katoa,
Nau mai haere mai ki te pānui a-marama.
He mihi maioha ki a koutou
Ko te tumanako kua ora katoa ō koutou whānau*

*Welcome to the Newsletter for this month.
Warm regards to you all at this time of the year.
We hope that you and your families are well.*

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Call for nominations

The Ministry of Health has published an advertisement seeking nominations/applications for appointment to the Psychotherapists Board of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Applications need to be made via the [Ministry of Health Careers system](#) (see hyperlink) and be accompanied by a completed and signed Declaration Form.

Please note that the closing date for applications is Thursday, **1 June 2017**.

Recertification audit update

The Board would like to thank practitioners who are currently engaged in the Recertification Plan Audit.

This is the Board's first large audit, with 100 psychotherapists taking part. The Board has

advertised that this audit will take place between March and June 2017¹.

Please be assured that psychotherapists who have submitted audits will be contacted with the outcome of their audit as soon as practical.

At the conclusion of the audit period the Board will provide Recertification Plan useful tips through its website and Newsletter.

Training Programme Providers - Accreditation consultation update

Thank you once again to the **Training Programme Providers** who responded to the Board's request for feedback.

The Board is currently reviewing and working with the Accreditation Committee on the accreditation documents (both the Tertiary Programme and Professional Development Programme or Course of Study).

The Board intends that the next round of accreditation consultation with Training Providers will be both written and face to face (hui).

¹ This is a time-consuming process; audits are anonymised, collated and sent to auditors in small manageable batches. Currently the Board is on track to have responded to all practitioners by the end of June 2017.

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As noted previously, wider consultation will be held as soon as practicable; this will involve programme providers, practitioners, stakeholders and the public.

Annual Practising Certification (APC) Fee and Disciplinary Levy (Levy)

The Board's purpose is 'to protect the health and safety of members of the public by providing for mechanisms to ensure that psychotherapists are competent and fit to practise'.

To carry out this work the Board charges an Annual Practising Certificate (APC) fee to cover all matters relating to the operation of the Board, such as²:

- Authorising the registration of health practitioners.
- Considering applications for annual practising certificates.
- Reviewing and promoting the competence of health practitioners.
- Receiving and acting on information from health practitioners, employers, and the Health and Disability Commissioner about the competence of health practitioners.
- Setting standards of clinical competence, cultural competence, and ethical conduct to be observed by health practitioners of the profession.
- Board function costs such as office rent, IT, consumables, Board meetings and personnel etc.

What is a Disciplinary Levy?

A Disciplinary Levy is collected³ to cover any disciplinary costs that may be generated as a consequence of a complaint requiring Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) investigation and a disciplinary hearing before the Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal (HPDT)⁴.

² This is not an exhaustive list

³ Under section 131 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (HPCAA)

⁴ The Board has no control over the costs associated with a case taken to the Tribunal.

The Board currently has a Disciplinary Levy reserve and has not charged a Levy since 2011.

If the disciplinary levy becomes depleted⁵ the Board will need to reinstate the disciplinary levy.

Currently there is no information to indicate that the Disciplinary Levy needs to be reinstated.

Consultation responses

The Board has agreed that on a case by case basis it may advertise consultation responses on the Board's website.

The following consultation responses are currently located on the Board's [Website](#).

- New practitioners for registered health professional and treatment provider definitions.
- Investing in New Zealand's Future Health Workforce. Post-entry training of New Zealand's future health workforce: Proposed investment approach.

2017 Board meeting dates

Friday 28th and Saturday 29th July
Sunday 24th and Monday 25th September
Friday 24th and Saturday 25th November

Due to budgetary reasons all meetings will be held in Wellington until future notice.

Meet the Board

Due to time constraints at the July meeting the Board will not be available to meet with practitioners. However please note that the Registrar is available for contact Monday to Thursday until 2pm.

Practitioners will have an opportunity to meet the Board in September 2017.

⁵ HPDT costs can be particularly expensive. Other Regulatory Authorities indicate that a single case can cost in excess of \$100,000.00.

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Practitioners are invited to meet with the Board (open forum). This is an opportunity to ask questions about recertification, accreditation or simply meet the Board members and engage in conversation. If you are intending to come along, please RSVP to registrar@pbanz.org.nz. A reminder will be sent closer to the time.

Date: Sunday 24th September 2017
Time: 4.30pm
Location: Level 5, 22 Willeston Street

Best wishes for your ongoing psychotherapy work and well-being.