

Vital Signs

Thank you for your support



Our Voice

Media

NZMA Chair Kate Baddock, spoke with NZ Doctor on the [NZMA, climate change](#) and importance of [relationships](#) that allow for healthy discussion to enable positive change.

DIARY

NZMA Chair Kate Baddock and CEO Lesley Clarke had a number of meetings this week with key stakeholders including:

Chairman of the Medical Council Curtis Walker,
Sarah Dalton, incoming ASMS Executive Director and the
Ministry of Health.

Lesley also met with Members of Parliament and the Ministry of Social Development.



LATEST NZMJ: VOL 132 NO 1507

The 2019 Richard Robinson Award goes to the best clinically relevant manuscript of 2018 and is:

[Childhood predictors of adult adiposity: findings from a longitudinal study](#)

by Geraldine FH McLeod, David M Fergusson, L John Horwood, Joseph M Boden, Frances A Carter

See more below

NZ's latest medical research out now - [Read the full journal](#)

[Editorial](#) - The 1918–1919 influenza epidemic in New Zealand: end of the century reflections

Open Access - [No attributable effects of PRP on greater trochanteric pain syndrome](#)

by Grant Thompson, John F Pearson

Includes articles on greater trochanteric pain syndrome, influenza, long-term opioid use, climate change, vaping and more...



2019 RICHARD ROBINSON AWARD

Image of Geraldine McLeod receiving the award on behalf of all the authors from NZMJ Editor-in-Chief Frank Frizelle in Christchurch - [read more here](#).

The 2019 Richard Robinson Award recipient goes to the 2018 manuscript [Childhood predictors of adult adiposity: Findings from a longitudinal study](#).

The authors of the study, *Geraldine FH McLeod, David M Fergusson, John Horwood, Joseph M Boden and Frances A Carter* received the Award on Tuesday 10 December for excellence in medical writing and a clinically relevant manuscript.

MAS kindly provided \$2k of sponsorship.

Note. Sadly, David Fergusson passed following the publishing of the research in 2018.



WHAKAARI / WHITE ISLAND ERUPTION

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and whānau of all involved with Whakaari, those who have lost loved ones and we hope the recovery mission goes well today.

Our support and admiration to the medical profession and all others involved who have rallied in the most amazing way to support and succour those in need.

We also have a note from Tony Bartone, President of the Australian Medical Association:

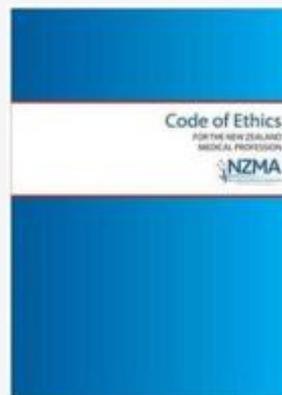
First of all please pass on our collective thanks and heart felt gratitude to all your colleagues in New Zealand who have and are so professionally and diligently caring for the many injured (including the many Australians) as a result of the eruption yesterday. I trust this message also conveys our collective admiration to all the medical professionals as well as all emergency services and personnel involved in this rescue and life saving care mission knowing the strong bonds that exists across our two countries.....bonds which underpin the respect and esteem we hold for each other.

I understand preparations are in place to look at and begin the imminent med-evacuation of a number of the burns victims.

Please let us know if there is anything at our own end that we can bring to the table to assist in this regard albeit I am sure that this is already being facilitated as we speak. This obviously will be a delicate and complex operation the scale of which I can only speculate at. I understand that many Australian hospitals are offering to take many of the injured who are stable enough to be transferred.

Once again my personal and heart felt thanks on behalf of the Australian Medical Association and our prayers and gratitude for all your nations endeavours and wish you strength and endurance to continue in this most arduous task in the days ahead.

*Thank you so much
Sincerely
Tony*



NZMA CODE OF ETHICS REVIEW YOUR VIEWS SOUGHT

There was a large amount of feedback on the second round of consultation on the review of the NZMA Code of Ethics. In view of this the publication of the updated Code was deferred.

The NZMA Ethics Committee has now completed consideration of all feedback received and is conducting a third round of consultation on a proposed [final draft](#) of the Code.

Amendments that have been made following the second round of consultation are

shown in red. All feedback will be passed to the Ethics Committee who will convene again early next year to finalise the Code which will be presented for adoption at the NZMA Council in May 2020.

Please provide your comments to [Sanji](#) by **Friday 31 January 2020**.



SUBMISSION TO HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING COMMISSION BILL

NZMA welcomes this Bill and strongly supports the establishment of a Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission.

We recommend the Commission be strengthened by requiring at least some members of the Board to be subject matter experts or authorities in mental health and wellbeing.

We also believe the functions of the Commission need to be expanded to enable it to address the social and other determinants of mental health and wellbeing.

[Read our full submission.](#)



Te Kaporeihana Āwhina Hunga Whara

SUBMISSION: CHANGES TO ACC REGULATED PAYMENTS FOR TREATMENT

NZMA is supportive of the proposed changes by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment relating to increasing regulated ACC payments for treatment.

However, we continue to have concerns about ACC funding treatments that have no, or very limited, evidence of effectiveness such as acupuncture. Read our full submission [here](#).



SUPPORT CATWALK AND THIRTY EIGHT IN 38 TARGET \$20,000 - DONATE NOW

Megan De Lambert of our Doctors-in-Training Council is one of a thirteen member party attempting to climb Mt Maunganui this weekend - thirty-eight times in 38 hours.

Yes that is thirty-eight in 38 hours or 105km on foot which is equal to the height of Mt Everest, but much warmer!

Megan is working with others to raise money for [CatWalk](#), the New Zealand based charity that funds research into spinal cord injuries.

Their target is **\$20,000** and so far they have raised \$16,000K - so this is the final push to hit that \$20,000 target for a fantastic cause.

[Donate now](#) for a great cause.

Follow the team on Instagram [@thirtyeightin38](#) or find them on [Facebook](#) to track progress this weekend!



Te Kaunihera
Rata o
Aotearoa

**Medical
Council of
New Zealand**

UPDATED STATEMENT ON INFORMED CONSENT

The Medical Council has recently revisited its Statement on informed consent.

Informed consent is a very important aspect of care. This statement sets out the standards of good medical practice when discussing options for treatment and obtaining consent from patients.

You can access the statement [here](#).



LOTTERY HEALTH RESEARCH COMMITTEE CANDIDATES SOUGHT

The Minister of Internal Affairs is seeking nominations of suitably qualified candidates to three positions on the Lottery Health Research Committee, for terms of office beginning on 1 April 2020. The Lottery Health Research Committee funds research projects that will improve the health status of New Zealanders. Candidates with a mix of the following attributes are desirable:

- first-hand experience in a community group;
- management skills;
- extensive business knowledge; and
- grant distribution experience.

The following additional specialist knowledge in any of these areas is also desirable:

- experience in the health or biomedical research communities;
- experience in clinical and community research;
- experience in qualitative research methods; and
- experience of post-doc research supervision.

The Committee usually holds a two-day meeting to consider applications and allocate funds for PhD scholarships, post-doctoral fellowships, research projects and shared equipment. Members usually spend up to 40 hours preparing for each meeting.

Nominations close on 17 January 2020.

Please send [completed nomination forms](#) and your CV to appointments@dia.govt.nz.



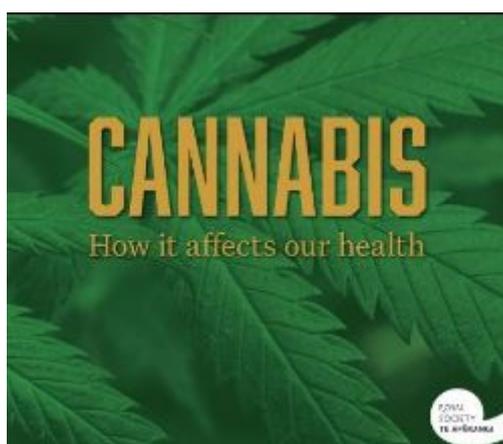
PUBLIC HEALTH LAW COURSE FEBRUARY 2020

On Thursday 27 February, the University of Otago (Wellington) is hosting a summer school public health law course.

Law is a determinant of and a tool for public health. Understanding how law works, and how it underpins public health, is vital to ensure we work effectively. Creative ways of harnessing law will help New Zealand meet new challenges in public health. The course:

- Gives a basic introduction to law: where to find it and how to interpret it.
- Overviews the legal frameworks that govern public health law in relation to communicable disease issues, environmental health, and products such as tobacco, alcohol, and gambling.
- Looks at what's new on the legal front and what's proposed: where are we at with privacy legislation, water regulation, fluoridation?
- Reviews international law that affects public health.

To find out timetables and details for registration, visit their [website](#)



THE ROYAL SOCIETY TE APĀRANGI - CANNABIS: HOW IT AFFECTS OUR HEALTH

The Royal Society Te Apārangi has published a paper on [Cannabis: How it affects our health](#).

The paper is based the 2017 publication by the US National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine: [The Health Effects of Cannabis and Cannabinoids: The Current State of Evidence and Recommendations](#), with the help of a number of New Zealand experts, as well as additional literature of relevance to Aotearoa.

It finds evidence that cannabis-based medicines have some therapeutic effect in specific clinical situations and that recreational cannabis use can have some negative health outcomes. The report finds large knowledge gaps in understanding the health effects of both recreational cannabis and cannabis-based medicines, particularly in specific groups of the population, and this lack of knowledge poses a public health risk.

The paper is also accompanied by a [Key Facts](#) publication.



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DATA SECURITY PEACE OF MIND THIS SUMMER BREAK MANAGED BACKUP SOLUTIONS FOR NZMA MEMBERS

KeepItSafe has partnered with NZMA and its members. Currently, a free trial is on offer and 15% off services to work with you and make sure your sensitive business data is secure.

Find more information on this exclusive benefit [here](#).

Quote of the week

Life is not merely being alive, but being well.

Marcus Valerius Martialis

CLASSIFIED ADS and situations vacant

*NZMA offers members free classifieds and vacancy
advertisements.*

*Check out NZMJ website's [Vacancies page](#) and you may just find
your dream opportunity.*

Latest vacancies and classifieds include the following - just click on the vacancy/classified ad to be taken to the full ad:

Vacancies

- [Registrar or Principal House Officer \(Medicine\) | Queensland, Australia \(Closes 19 December 2019\)](#)
- [Specialist Physician for Older People | Northland DHB \(Closes 12 January\)](#)
- [Physician - Internal Medicine | Hawkes Bay \(Closes 12 January\)](#)
- [GP Wanted | Wellington \(Closes 11 January\)](#)
- [GP Wanted | Whakatane \(Closes 12 January 2020\)](#)
- [Public Health Physician Dunedin | Otago](#)
- [GP Wanted | Whitby \(Closes 6 January 2020\)](#)
- [Associate GP wanted - New Lynn, Auckland \(Closes 30 January\)](#)
- [Junior House Officers or Senior House Officers, Medical Workforce Services- Various locations \(Closes 3 January 2020\)](#)
- [Staff Specialist Paediatric Rehabilitation | Sydney \(Closes 23 Dec 2019\)](#)
- [General Practitioner - Part-time, Long term | Lower Hutt \(Closes 20 December\)](#)
- [Associate Editors for the NZMJ](#)
- [GP Required | Te Puke \(Closes 1 January 2020\)](#)
- [1-2 GPs Required | Mission Bay \(Closes 16 December\)](#)

Classifieds

- [GP partnership for sale | Nelson City](#)
- [Shareholding for sale in Auckland Medical Centre](#)

Members advertise for free - classifieds and/or vacancies via Hotline.



UPCOMING EVENTS

View our upcoming health sector events - go to the [NZMA events page on our website](#) for the full list.



AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND GENERAL MEDICINE UPDATE

**AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND
GENERAL MEDICINE UPDATE 2020**

20-22 March 2020

How do you keep your knowledge and skills up to date?

The world of medicine is evolving more rapidly than ever before.

[Click here to learn more and register](#)



**ORA TAIAO
NZ CLIMATE & HEALTH COUNCIL**

16-17 June 2020

Save the date

Key note speaker , Dr David Pencheon
former Director of NHS Sustainable
Development Unit.

Research & innovation to policy &
implementation:

[Click here](#) for more information.



MEMBER

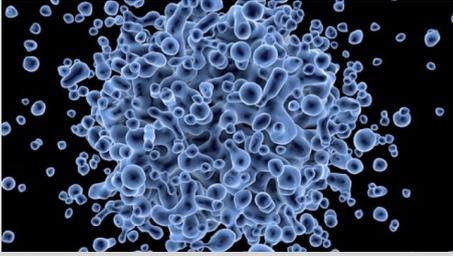
BENEFITS



INTERNATIONAL MONEY TRANSFERS

International Money Transfers

[OFX](#) are experts in international payments who have transferred more than \$100Bn to date whilst offering highly competitive



NZMA MEMBERS NO COST ADVERTISING

NZMA offers members the opportunity to place vacancies for personnel in the NZMJ and Vital Signs free of charge.

Reach the medical professionals you want as many do week on week.

exchange rates across 55 currencies. Opening an [OFX](#) account is free and enables safe, secure, quick and easy transfers to more than 190 countries.

NZMA members enjoy:

- \$0 OFX transaction fees on all transfers over NZD\$250
- bank beating exchange rates across 55 currencies
- 24/7 Telephone & online support to book your transfer

To register, visit [OFX's NZMA](#) page to get started.

Any questions then [email](#) or call +64 9 886 0245 *Albert Tony* your dedicated account manager.

Member Advisory Service

Health Support for Doctors

Maintaining good health is as essential for doctors as it is for their patients. The NZMA has developed a resource that sets out what is available to doctors should they suffer ill health. It outlines services available through medical colleges and other medical organisations.

These flyers are available for members to download from the [NZMA advisory service](#) on our website. You must be logged in to view and/or download these flyers, or you can email [Robyn Fell](#) for copies.

Vital Signs is your weekly bulletin about the NZMA and 'what's hot'.

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