

**Building public trust and confidence in Chinese Medicine as a safe, valid, and integral part of the Aotearoa New Zealand health system.**

Message from Council Chair



Tēnā koutou katoa,

Looking out the window of my clinic I can see many daffodils getting themselves ready to flower and Mr and Mrs Blackbird have been flirting outrageously in the apple tree. Spring is definitely in the air here in Te Tau Ihu - the Top of the South. We have all just celebrated Matariki – a time to remember and acknowledge the past, appreciate the present and look forward to the future.

The timing couldn't be better for the new phase in the development of our profession. This week we have started taking registrations from practitioners. A whole new beginning! To have reached this point is a massive achievement for all of us, something many have worked toward for more than 20 years. Congratulations everyone – we have reached an extremely significant milestone but there is still plenty of work to be done.

Our new website is up and running – a few small hiccups but that was always to be expected. You will see at the foot of each page the statement:

**“Building public trust and confidence in Chinese medicine as a safe, valid, and integral part of the Aotearoa New Zealand Healthcare system”.**

It is up to each and every one of us to ensure that we do all we can to bring that statement to life. We know how valuable our medicine is – we now have to work toward letting everyone else know about it as well.

Mānawatia a Matariki — Happy Māori New Year! Thank you to everyone who has played a part in achieving registration of the profession. We have a lot to celebrate.

**Paddy McBride**

Chair – CMCNZ

---

### Welcome to our New Registrar/General Manager



The Chinese Medicine Council of New Zealand (CMCNZ) is pleased to announce the appointment of Lindsey Pine as Registrar/General Manager.

Ms Pine brings over 15 years of experience in health regulation to the position, having worked as the Registrar of Optometrists & Dispensing Opticians Board and in similar roles at the Medical Council of New Zealand. In the past year Ms Pine has been employed by CMCNZ as Project Manager responsible for guiding the CMCNZ through the establishment of its regulatory foundations. A significant milestone in this process was met on 24 July 2023 when registrations officially opened.

The CMCNZ is confident that Ms Pine is well placed to ensure the CMCNZ continues meets its regulatory requirements under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003.

Ms Pine will start as Registrar/General Manager of CMCNZ on 1 August 2023.

Margaret Steel

Chair, Employment (Recruitment) Committee

---

## Message from the Registrar/General Manager

Tēnā anō koutou,

I am hugely excited to be joining the Council for the next part of Chinese medicine's journey. Registrations have now opened, so let's get things underway!

I have been very encouraged by the volume of enquiries we've received so far about registering. We're working on a few 'first days' tweaks here and there for the application process, but practitioners should find the process straightforward. If anyone gets stuck or isn't sure what to upload at what point, just 'save' where you're up to and either give us a call or email us with your question.

I've had a few enquiries about the question in the application about disclosing past criminal convictions and the Criminal Records (Clean Slate) Act 2004. If a conviction in New Zealand is disclosed on your criminal history record that has been covered by the Criminal Records (Clean Slate) Act 2004, then the Council will treat this type of conviction as discharged under this Act and will disregard this conviction when considering your application. You can find full details of the Council's requirements for criminal records in the [General Registration Checklist](#) on our website.

I look forward to engaging with everyone in the coming weeks and months. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with us with all your questions. That's what we're here for!

Kua rahi tēnei,

**Lindsey Pine**

Registrar/General Manager

---

## [Registrations are now open!](#)

**Applications for registration with the Chinese Medicine Council of New Zealand are now open.**

There are four different pathways for practitioners who are wanting to apply for registration;

1. Grand-parenting pathway
2. New Zealand Approved Qualifications
3. Overseas-qualified CM practitioners
4. Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997

The Council has developed [registration guides](#) to assist practitioners with their registration on each of the pathways. Use these [helpful checklists](#) to make sure you have everything you need for your application, and that your documents are correct before they are submitted.

To apply, you will create a 'MyCMCNZ' login via the website and you will be guided through the process. If you have any questions about your registration, please contact us at [reception@chinesemedicinecouncil.org.nz](mailto:reception@chinesemedicinecouncil.org.nz) or Phone: +64 4 978 5040

---

## Message from ACC



He Kaupare. He Manaaki.  
He Whakaora.  
prevention.care.recovery.

Tēnā koe,

The Chinese Medicine Council of New Zealand (CMCNZ) has recently published the Scope of Practice for Chinese Medicine. This means that everyone practising Chinese medicine will need to be registered with the Council.

Our expectation is that anyone providing Chinese Medicine treatments to our clients are registered with CMCNZ, hold a current Annual Practising Certificate (APC) issued by the Council and follow the relevant scope of practice.

Practising Chinese Medicine without a practising certificate issued by CMCNZ is an offence under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003. Doing so could jeopardise your ability to practise Chinese Medicine.

The Accident Compensation (Definitions) Regulations 2019 have not yet been amended to recognise the new role that CMCNZ play in regulating the Chinese Medicine profession. Until these regulations are changed, in order to be paid for treatments provided to ACC clients, you must still be:

- registered with Acupuncture NZ or New Zealand Acupuncture Standards Authority; and
- hold a current Annual Practising Certificate issued by either of the above two organisations.

We encourage all treatment providers practising Chinese Medicine to work towards meeting these requirements. Please prepare the required documents to apply for registration with CMCNZ and keep up-to-date with the latest information on the CMCNZ's website ([www.chinesemedicinecouncil.org.nz](http://www.chinesemedicinecouncil.org.nz)).

If you have any queries about CMCNZ or the new Chinese Medicine scope of practice, please contact the CMCNZ.

If you have any questions about the expectations we have set out in this letter, please email [acupuncture@acc.co.nz](mailto:acupuncture@acc.co.nz).

Ngā mihi,

**Tane Cassidy**

Deputy Chief Executive

Prevention and Partnerships

---

### Spotlight on specialist registrations

[Specialist registration](#) is an additional registration held in conjunction with another Chinese Medicine (CM) scope. It recognises CM practitioners with Council approved postgraduate qualifications, or clinical expertise, in a specific practice area recognised as a specialty area by the Council.

The Council has recognised the following specialist areas of Chinese medicine practice: women's health; mental health; paediatrics; dermatology; musculoskeletal; pain; neurology; oncology; education; and research.

[Read here for full details of the specialist category.](#)

---

### Reminder about cultural competency and cultural safety

CM Practitioners in New Zealand practise within a culturally diverse environment. They are required to be competent when engaging with clients whose cultures may differ from their own, and with colleagues and other health professionals from diverse backgrounds in accordance with the Council's Standards of Cultural Safety and Cultural Competency.

**The Council requires evidence of successfully passing three of five courses listed below within six months of registering.** Whilst many of you may be engaged in culturally safe practice, and/or cultural safety or competency education, these foundational courses, developed by the Ministry of Health for the sector, are seen as valuable for CM practitioners.

- i. [LearnOnline](#) – Understanding bias in healthcare

This **free** online course is an introduction to bias in health care. It includes three video learning modules on bias that have been developed for people working in the health care sector who engage directly with consumers or who influence the way health organisations are managed. These modules encourage health professionals to examine their biases and how they affect the health care they provide, their interactions with consumers, and therefore their health outcomes.

- ii. [LearnOnline](#) - Foundations in Cultural Competency

This **free** online course is for health practitioners on cultural competency. This course will take you on a journey with someone who has never been to New Zealand before. Along with your travel buddy, you will explore culture, the cultural history of New Zealand and see how culture can affect health and health care.

iii. [LearnOnline](#) - Module 1 | Ngā Paerewa Te Tiriti eLearning

This **free** eLearning module supports practitioners to understand the steps they can take to be compliant with Te Tiriti requirements within Ngā Paerewa. It will also provide practical ways for providers to fulfil their requirements.

iv. [Mauriora](#) –Cultural Competency and Cultural Safety

This online foundational cultural competency course was developed specifically for the registered New Zealand health workforce and provides a basic understanding of cultural competency in a health context.

v. [Mauriora](#) - Te Tiriti o Waitangi and The Treaty of Waitangi and Healthcare

This online foundational Te Tiriti o Waitangi course provides an understanding of the Tiriti relationship and partnership between the Crown to improve Māori health equity.

Moving forward the Council is seeking kupu tohutohu tikanga (advice regarding protocol and correct process) by holding a series of hui (discussion forums). These hui will be for **Tangata whenua within the Chinese medicine hāpori** (community). The Council will be represented by Mana Fleming (Te Āti Haunui-a-Pāpārangi).

The kaupapa (purpose) is to connect and strengthen relationships amongst Māori Mātanga whānau (experts/practitioners). These hui will be held to create whakawhanaungatanga and enable kōrero that will lead to initiatives across the CM profession that benefit and support the delivery of healthcare to Māori. This is also to strengthen the CM obligations under the Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

---

### The CMC will be at the Acupuncture Zealand Conference!

Come and visit us at our information table to ask any questions about registration or the Council and come and have your documents verified for the purpose of registration by the Registrar. Lindsey and Kate will also be presenting on the recertification/CPD process, and how to make it meaningful, relevant and compliant!

[Have a look at the Acupuncture NZ website for the full program and presentation details.](#)

---

### Council contact details

[reception@chinesemedicinecouncil.org.nz](mailto:reception@chinesemedicinecouncil.org.nz)

Phone: +64 4 978 5040

## Opening Hours

Mon - Fri

8:30 am – 5:00 pm

Meetings by appointment only

## Share on Social



Level 5, 22 Willeston Street, Wellington 6011, 04 9785040

[Check out our site →](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)