



8 April 2009

Dear Doctor

During May this year, the Medical Council will be undertaking meetings with doctors throughout New Zealand on two major initiatives.

I would like to invite you to attend one of these meetings to discuss and give feedback on:

(i) Proposed use of practice visits by peers

The Council is proposing that practice visits be incorporated into the continuing professional development programmes of medical colleges and branch advisory bodies. A practice visit is a supportive and collegial review of a doctor's practice by two peers. A range of tools would be used to assess performance and identify learning needs. The primary purpose of practice visits is to enhance clinical practice. Only if there were immediate dangers to patient safety or if clinical deficiencies were not addressed would the Medical Council be involved.

(ii) Proposed new framework for supervision of International Medical Graduates (IMGs)

The new framework is intended to provide the following benefits:

- improved and appropriate supervision for IMGs to ensure their safe and supported integration into the New Zealand workforce
- improved protection of the health and safety of the public
- clarity for the profession, BABs, employers and other stakeholders
- improved collegiality and collaboration across District Health Boards (DHBs) with a greater focus on regional models of service delivery.

Consultation papers on these two topics will be available on the home page of our web site (www.mcnz.org.nz) from Thursday, 23 April. Dates and venues of the various meetings we are holding throughout New Zealand are attached and can also be found on our home page, together with two videos of Dr Peter Foley, President of the New Zealand Medical Association asking me questions about the proposed use of practice visits by peers. I would encourage you to watch these videos.

We are looking for feedback on these issues from you and your colleagues. I hope you are able to join us and look forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely

Professor John Campbell
Chairperson