

PŪRONGO NEWSLETTER

September 2026



NEW ZEALAND
CHIROPRACTIC BOARD
TE POARI KAIKOROHITI O AOTEAROA



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Tēnā tātou katoa,

I hope this finds you and your loved ones vibrantly well and enjoying a lift in energy and spirits with Spring.

Having had the privilege of attending both the New Zealand Chiropractors Association Conference and the New Zealand College of Chiropractic's Lyceum recently it was a pleasure to engage with many of you and hear how you and your practices are faring in our communities. While both events were fundamentally different in content and atmosphere, as would be expected, there were two truly standout moments for me that I would share with you.

Having not one but two orthopaedic surgeons presenting at a chiropractic conference, and in such a way that it was clear they respected the unique role chiropractic plays in ensuring and enhancing the health of the people of Aotearoa spoke volumes to me about the state of collegial co-operation in healthcare.

Another theme presented that deeply resonated with me was the planting of trees that you won't get to sit under. This forward-looking philanthropy speaks to the substance of quiet actions that ensure that the generations that follow will inherit a greener, more grounded world. Quiet actions that ensure the prospering of future generations occur every day in chiropractic offices across the world.

These hui have certainly set the bar high for future chiropractic gatherings, and I offer my congratulations to both the Association and the College.

The Board is looking forward to welcoming you to our first hui next year. We are endeavouring to present content worthy of the fine work you all do to materially improve the health and wellbeing of your communities.

Dr Tim Cooper BSc, BSc (Chiro)
Chair, New Zealand Chiropractic Board

CHIROPRACTIC BOARD PERFORMANCE REVIEW OUTCOME

In our [July 2026 newsletter](#) we advised that the Board had recently undergone a performance review under section 122A of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (HPCA Act). An independent panel measured how well the Board's performance performed against core standards: registration, CPD, professional standards, stakeholder engagement, public information, and Te Tiriti obligations.

The Board performed well across all core regulatory standards, with two minor recommendations to improve on:

1. The Board has one scope of practice with prescribed qualifications. The prescribed qualifications were last reviewed in 2012. It is recommended that the scheduled review continues to be prioritised.
2. The review identified the Board recognises its obligations under Te Tiriti and there is evidence that this has been a priority area since the previous review. Notwithstanding, the Board acknowledges the actions taken have yet to be fully embedded across its functions and are currently exploring ways to progress this mahi. It is recommended the Board continue their journey of embedding Te Tiriti across regulatory functions.

You can read the full report on our [website](#).

ANNUAL PRACTISING FEE CONSULTATION OPEN

As you may be aware, the Board is currently [consulting on the Annual Practising Fees](#). You can give feedback by emailing our Project Administrator, Miriam at miriam@chiropracticboard.org.nz by **5pm Wednesday 14 October 2026**.

DON'T FORGET TO LOG YOUR CPD!

It's already September which means you now have **3 months (till 31 December 2026)** to log your CPD in the [online portal](#). Not sure what you need to do? Please contact us at admin@chiropracticboard.org.nz if you need help or have any questions – we are always happy to help.

How the profession performed in the CPD audit:

A total of 119 chiropractors were called for audit for the 2024/2025 CPD year. Of the 119 chiropractors:

- 57 achieved
- 56 achieved with recommendations
- 3 were exempted
- 3 were unsuccessful

The Board noticed that many of you struggled with completing the cultural or diversity responsiveness activity. We are working on providing some resources on our website to direct you to appropriate resources you can use for the cultural or diversity responsiveness activity.

USING AI IN CHIROPRACTIC PRACTICE

We know that AI is being used in chiropractic to help with clinical notetaking, admin, and communication to patients. If you are using AI in practice, remember that you:

- **Remain responsible for your work.** If you use AI, you are still responsible for checking the information, exercising your professional judgement, and ensuring any decisions or records are accurate and appropriate.
- **Check it before you use it.** AI can produce inaccurate, incomplete or fabricated information. Check AI-generated content before relying on it, sharing it with patients or including it in a health record.
- **Get consent for AI notetaking.** If an AI tool records, transcribes or processes a patient consultation, explain its use and obtain the patient's consent first.
- **Protect patient information.** Before putting patient information into an AI system, understand how and if a patient's privacy will be protected. Existing obligations relating to informed consent, privacy and confidentiality, accurate health records and professional responsibility continue to apply when AI is used. Health NZ has developed a practical [Protecting health data eLearning course](#) to help practitioners strengthen everyday cyber security and protect patient information.
- **Understand the tool.** You don't need to be an AI expert, but you should understand what the tool does, its limitations and the risks associated with using it.

The Board is yet to develop formal guidelines/policy on the use of AI in chiropractic practice. The Board will consult with and advise you when its AI policy is developed.

KEY THEMES FROM CLEAR CONFERENCE (PORTLAND, USA)

Our CE/Registrar recently attended the CLEAR conference, where the conference reinforced the importance of:

- Continuing to keep our engagement with you and the public transparent and timely.
- Putting patient safety first—both in how we regulate and by supporting you to provide safe, high-quality care.
- Keeping in mind how a complaints process may affect you and ensuring that decisions are made fairly and proportionate to the notification received.

WORLD SPINE DAY IS 16 OCTOBER

It's World Spine Day this October; this year's theme is 'Spine health for life' which centres around importance of spinal health for all people, of all ages, in all nations. Want to know more or download resources so you can hold your own event? You can get more information and resources at [World Spine day](#).