



NEW ZEALAND PAEDIATRICS & CHILD HEALTH DIVISION (NZ PCHDC)

2017 Mid-Year Communiqué

The NZ PCHDC began the year with a meeting on 3 March 2017, with PCHD President, Dr Sarah Dalton, attending. This provided a great opportunity for the Committee to confirm their work plan to the broader Division objectives. Among the topics covered during the meeting, the Committee discussed recertification of paediatricians in the New Zealand context, as part of the Medical Council of New Zealand's wider consultation on recertification for vocationally registered doctors in New Zealand. RACP's submission is available from RACP's website here: [RACP's submission to MCNZ on recertification](#).

Also on 3 March, Dr Dalton and I met with the New Zealand Children's Commissioner, Judge Andrew Becroft. This was a valuable opportunity to identify our shared vision for children's health and wellbeing, and to explore ways in which we can work together to advocate for better healthcare services for children and young people in New Zealand.

Committee members continue to contribute to New Zealand-focused submissions, including those on: the Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Bill; the Children, Young Persons, and Their Families (Oranga Tamariki) Legislation Bill, which is about meeting the complex needs of children in care and protection and youth justice services in New Zealand; a position statement on pre-pregnancy obesity; and the future of the New Zealand health workforce. New Zealand members are also active as endorsed RACP representatives on external groups, including the Development Group for National Guidelines for Dextrose for Neonatal hypoglycaemia; the NZ Cerebral Palsy Register, and contributing their expertise as individuals to the (NZ) Ministry of Health's National Maternity Monitoring Group. In addition, New Zealand members are contributing to the development of an RACP 2017 NZ Election Statement, for which we have already gained the support of the NZ Children's Commissioner.

The Committee is continuing to make progress on the development of the Model of Collaboration with the Paediatric Society of New Zealand (PSNZ), and was pleased to support PSNZ's successful application for the Specialty Society Webinar Pilot.

Dr Jeff Brown

NZ President-Elect

Chair, NZ Paediatrics and Child Health Division Committee

26 April 2017