



24 February 2026

Consultation

Draft statements on cultural competence, cultural safety, and hauora Māori

Te Kaunihera Rata o Aotearoa | Medical Council of New Zealand (Council) is responsible for setting standards of clinical competence, cultural competence (including competencies to enable respectful and effective interaction with Māori), and ethical conduct (Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003).

Following a review of the 2019 [Statement on cultural safety](#) Council has developed two draft statements for consultation:

- Cultural competence and cultural safety
- Hauora Māori (Māori health and wellbeing)

The statements set expectations for how doctors provide culturally competent and culturally safe care, and support equitable health outcomes.

The draft statements were informed by external experts with significant input from Te Kāhui Whakamana Tiriti (Council's expert Māori advisory group), and Whakawaha (Council's consumer advisory group).

The inclusion of cultural competence and cultural safety in one statement is intended to improve the understanding that they are both essential to the practice of medicine and apply broadly across all communities.

The draft statement on Hauora Māori is intended to support improved health and wellbeing for Māori, alongside the existing Council resource [He Ara Hauora Māori: A Pathway to Māori Health Equity](#) (2019). This recognises that Māori have additional Indigenous rights to good health, self-determination and equity.

Consultation process

We would like your input and feedback on the draft statements by completing [this survey](#).

Alternatively, you can also email your feedback to Strategic@mcnz.org.nz.

The consultation closes on **Tuesday 24 March 2026**.

We will keep you updated through MC News.

Questions

Statement on cultural competence and cultural safety

Q1

Is the draft statement on cultural competence and cultural safety clearly written and easy to understand?

Please select: Yes/ somewhat/ no

If somewhat or no, please tell us what can be improved to make the statement clearer.

Q2

Are the expectations in this statement reasonable and proportionate?

Please select: Yes/ somewhat/ no

If somewhat or no, please tell us what changes you would like to see.

Q3

Is there anything missing from the draft statement on cultural competence and cultural safety?

Q4

Do you have any other comments on the draft statement on cultural competence and cultural safety?

Statement on hauora Māori

Q5

Is the draft statement on hauora Māori clearly written and easy to understand?

Please select: Yes/ somewhat/ no

If somewhat or no, please tell us what can be improved to make the statement clearer.

Q6

Are the expectations in this statement reasonable and proportionate?

Please select: Yes/ somewhat/ no

If somewhat or no, please tell us what changes you would like to see.

Q7

Is there anything missing from the draft statement on hauora Māori?

Q8

Do you have any other comments on the draft statement on hauora Māori?

Use of information

We may publish a summary of responses, which may include quotes to illustrate key themes and insights.

Do you consent to your responses potentially being used as quotes in a published summary? If you are unsure, please select 'no'.

- 1. Yes, I consent to my responses being used as quotes, including my name and organisation.*
- 2. Yes, I consent to my responses being used as anonymised quotes.*
- 3. No, I do not consent to my responses being used as quotes.*

If you are submitting your feedback by email, please let us know whether you consent to any part of your response being quoted in any published reports. If not specified, we will take this to mean that you do not consent.

If you have further questions about the use of this information please contact Kiri Rikihana, Privacy Officer, on krikihana@mcnz.org.nz.