

2024 MEDICAL COUNCIL OF
NEW ZEALAND ELECTION

CANDIDATE PROFILES

Election of FOUR (4)
Medical Council Members



**Te Kaunihera Rata
o Aotearoa**

Medical Council
of New Zealand



CANDIDATES

ASIM Muhammad	3
BISMARCK Marie	4
CHHIBBER Aakash	5
CHILD Stephen	6
COLEMAN Lynne	7
DOEHRING Richard	8
D'SOUZA Ralston	9
EL-GAMEL Adam	10
GOODMAN Ainsley	11
KELLY Patrick	12
LACK Liza	13
LOVE Timothy	14
MULDER Roger	15
MUTHU Alexandra	16
RAKASZ Lucas	17
RUYGROK Peter	18
SAMES Tristan	19
SCOTT-JONES Joseph	20
THOMPSON Colin	21
WATSON Peter	22
WOLF Bryan	23

Disclaimer: The Returning Officer of Te Kaunihera Rata o Aotearoa | Medical Council of New Zealand (Council) accepts no responsibility for the content or accuracy of the statements as supplied by the candidates.

ASIM Muhammad

Phone: 021 144 8889

Email: aasim166@yahoo.com

Medical qualifications:

MBBS, FRNZCGP, FRNZCUC, Diploma Skin Cancer Medicine

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

General Practice

Current appointment(s):

TuiOra and Medicross New Plymouth

I am GP and Urgent care physician working in both specialities. I graduated from King Edward Medical College, Lahore Pakistan and have worked in Pakistan, USA and Japan before coming to New Zealand. I have broad based experience, working in different cultures and dealing with different communities.



Kia Ora, I am an overseas graduate working in Aotearoa for last 17 years. I want to represent big community of Overseas trained doctors in MCNZ. Workforce shortage especially in primary care is big issue faced by Aotearoa. Most of overseas trained doctors enter via NZREX pathway. I would like to involve in making training guidelines and pathways for smooth transition of these to deal with workforce shortage. I have worked towards equity in healthcare with focus on Māori health. I am a GP teacher for RNZCGP and Hon lecturer for Univ of Auckland.

BISMARCK Marie

Phone: 04 903 0260

Email: marie.bismark@mhaids.health.nz

Medical qualifications:

MBChB MPH MPsych MD FRANZCP
FAFPHM (RACP)

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Public Health; Psychiatry

Current appointment(s):

Psychiatrist at Kapiti Mental Health Clinic



I'm a community care psychiatrist, living on the beautiful Kapiti Coast, and a Professor of Law and Public Health.

I've enjoyed working in hospitals in Auckland, Wellington, Cape Town, and Melbourne, and completed a Harkness Fellowship at Harvard. I have 20 years' governance experience, serving as a board member of ACC, Family Planning, and Summerset.

I'm passionate about access to good healthcare, with a focus on women's health, mental health, aged care, and rural communities. I care deeply about the health of health practitioners, and the role of compassionate regulation and adequate resources in supporting doctors to provide safe care.

CHHIBBER Aakash

Phone: 021 040 6770

Email: aakashvarunchhibber@gmail.com

Medical qualifications:

MBChB, University of Otago

BMedSc(Hons) First Class, University of Otago

BSc, University of Otago

FRCPA, Clinical Microbiology

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Clinical Microbiology

Current appointment(s):

Clinical Microbiologist, Awanui Labs (Labtests), Auckland

Board Member, Neuroconnection Foundation

Kia ora kotou katoa. My clinical work has spanned regional centres and primary care, so I understand the challenges of practice across the breadth of medicine in New Zealand and this informs my day-to-day practice as a specialist now based in Auckland. I enjoy working with my primary care and hospital colleagues to ensure that we are all providing patient centred care. I don't like cricket, I love it.



I am confident my skills, experience and unique perspective will be a valuable addition to the Council. I am a member of the Institute of Directors New Zealand with governance experience in the NGO sector and previous experience as Board Chairperson. I enjoy contributing at a systems level and it would be a privilege to serve as a practising colleague on the Council, to ensure we are keeping involved in important issues for the profession whilst ensure robust systems are in place the people of Aotearoa.

CHILD Stephen

Phone: 021 555 813

Email: stephenc@adhb.govt.nz

Medical qualifications:

MD 1986 University of Ottawa, Canada

FRCP 1991 Royal College of Physician and Surgeons

FRACP 1993 Royal Australasian College of Physicians



Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Internal Medicine

Respiratory Interest

Current appointment(s):

Consultant SMO – Gen Med, Auckland City Hospital

Chief Medical Officer – Southern Cross Health Society

Medical Council of NZ

Clinical Governance Group – Whakarongorau

I love our Profession and have thoroughly enjoyed the last 32 years of practice in NZ and 5 years on the Medical Council. Over this time, there has been an exponential transformation in the practice of medicine in a rapidly changing society grappling with increasing divisions and mistrust. Doctors pledge an oath to serve their patients and act in their best interests yet increasing “consumer centric” care, patient-initiated treatments and technology delivered diagnoses challenge this traditional model. Together, the profession and regulator, need to rapidly evolve to ensure our continued strong protection of the public and stewardship of the profession.

COLEMAN Lynne

Phone: 027 496 2510

Email: lynne.coleman@apollomedical.co.nz

Medical qualifications:

MBChB, DipObs, FRNZCGP,
PGDipSportsMed, PGDipBus, FRNZCUC

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

General Practice, Urgent Care

Current appointment(s):

Clinical Director The Doctors Apollo, Medical Director
Swimming NZ HPSNZ



I am passionate about achieving high quality equitable outcomes for the community we serve and I believe that upholding high professional standards is essential to this.

Relevant experience I would bring to this role includes:

- FRNZCGP and FRNZCUC
- Clinical Director of a large (17000+) culturally diverse practice leading quality improvement programmes
- Chartered Member Institute of Directors
- Chair Comprehensive Care PHO
- Board director Shorecare Medical Services (Urgent care service)
- 3 x 3yr term board member Waitemata DHB- Chairing Hospital Advisory and Quality and Risk Committees
- Minister appointed member Sports Tribunal NZ - 12 years
- Member NZ Order of Merit 2015

DOEHRING Richard

Phone: 021 532 289

Email: doehring@bugscape.com

Medical qualifications:

MBBCh, DTM&H, FFPATH(SA), FRCPath, FRCPA

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Medical Microbiology

Current appointment(s):

Retired

Following an Honours degree in Theoretical Physics, changed to Medicine, graduating MBBCh with distinction in 1977, then specialising in Medical Microbiology. MBA in 1991. Notable appointments have been Head of Pathology at Johannesburg Hospital, Deputy Director of the South African Institute for Medical Research and Medical Director of Taranaki Crown Health Enterprise, after which I returned to Medical Microbiology practice. I am married, with three adult children, one of whom has a disability. Now retired from practice, I am engaged in study at a postgraduate level in the Epistemology of Medicine.



There is concern amongst both practitioners and the public over the state of Medicine in New Zealand. Retired now, from the perspective of forty-five years in teaching, research, medical management and medical practice, I see much of the problem as arising from the bureaucratic imposition of conformity with politically and commercially driven dogma and norms. I hope, on election to Council, to advocate for respect towards diverse views; valuing of debate; upholding of free expression (a fundamental human right) and the return of autonomy and ethical principles in Medicine, with the welfare of the individual patient at its centre.

D'SOUZA Ralston

Phone: 021 295 1410

Email: ralstondsouza1@gmail.com

Medical qualifications:

MBChB - University of Auckland

Postgraduate Diploma in Rural and
Provincial Hospital Practice (PGDipRPHP)

-University of Otago

Fellowship of the Division of Rural Hospital Medicine
New Zealand



Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Rural Hospital Medicine

General Practice

Current appointment(s):

Senior Medical Officer - Rural Hospital Medicine - Taupo
Hospital

General Practice Registrar - Taupo Health Centre

Kia ora, I'm Ralston D'Souza, a Rural Hospital
Medicine Specialist and General Practice Registrar
based in Taupo.

I'm passionate about ensuring high quality medical
training in New Zealand. Our health system is under
immense pressure, but maintaining high standards
of training - from medical school to specialist training
- is vital for improving health outcomes.

My current roles as the Executive Secretary and
Treasurer of the New Zealand Resident Doctors
Association, Treasurer of RNZCGP Registrar's
Chapter and member of the General Practice
Education Programme Board of Studies has provided
me valuable governance experience that would
benefit the Medical Council.

EL-GAMEL Adam

Phone: 021 621 512

Email: aelgamel@aol.com

Medical qualifications:

MBBCh, MD, FRCS Eng FRCS Ed. FARCS

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Cadiothoracic Surgery

Current appointment(s):

Locum Prof Cardiothoracic Surgeon Wollongong Hospital NSW



During my career and international clinical appointments, I had to work closely with diverse patient populations. I have developed strong interpersonal skills and the ability to effectively communicate with patients, their families, and the healthcare team. Patient care have always been my utmost priority, and I am committed to providing compassionate and evidence-based care.

In addition to my clinical skills, I have a strong understanding of medical ethics, professional conduct, and legal regulations. I possess excellent organizational skills, and the ability to manage a heavy workload. My life acquired skills would be valuable assets in supporting the medical council.

GOODMAN Ainsley

Phone: 021 141 3000

Email: ainsley_goodman@hotmail.com

Medical qualifications:

MBChB (Otago) 1994

FRNZCUC 2006

FRNZCGP 2017

PG Diploma in Community Emergency Med (Auckland) 2006

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

General Practice, Urgent Care

Current appointment(s):

Elected member MCNZ

Deputy Chair Education Committee MCNZ

Health Committee (MCNZ)

Policy Working Group (MCNZ)

Progress Monitoring Subcommittee (Australian Medical Council)

Elected Member RNZCUC Executive Committee

Convenor of Education Committee RNZCUC



I am a GP, Urgent Care physician, with 29 years' experience in primary and secondary care, seeking re-election for a 3rd term.

Over the last 6 years I have developed the necessary skills to make valuable contributions to a variety of MCNZ activities, including Education, Health, Policy and accreditation of prevocational and vocational training providers, which I thoroughly enjoy.

I understand how resource limitations, system errors, human factors contribute to poor patient outcomes, and possible performance complaints to MCNZ. I remain committed to ensuring complaints processes are fair, consistent and timely.

My strengths include attention to detail, efficiency and fairness.

KELLY Patrick

Phone: 021 402 151

Email: patrickk@adhb.govt.nz

Medical qualifications:

MBChB, DCH, PGDipObstMedGyn, FRACP, MD

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Paediatrics

Current appointment(s):

Paediatrician, Starship. Honorary Associate Professor, Department of Paediatrics: Child and Youth Health, Faculty of Medical & Health Sciences, University of Auckland

At Starship since 1992 as a general paediatrician, clinical director of child protection team and co-founder of Puāwaitahi, a multi-agency Child Advocacy Centre. 30 years training and supporting colleagues in response to child maltreatment and family violence and providing expert evidence. Chaired Child Protection Special Interest Group of the Paediatric Society for many years and led establishment of National Child Protection Clinical Network. In 2016 received the ONZM for services to child health.



I am standing for the Medical Council because I believe that I can make a useful contribution to the assessment and maintenance of professional standards. Much of my career has involved "*challenging matters*" (as the work of the Council is described in the notice of election) and I have often had to make clinical and professional decisions which (again as the work of the Council is described) are "*difficult and require considerable reading, thought and sound judgement.*" I believe I can bring an ability to listen, wisdom born of extensive clinical and management experience, and personal humility to the table.

LACK Liza

Phone: 027 296 3589

Email: lizacrayton@gmail.com

Medical qualifications:

RNZCGP Distinguished Fellow

Auckland University MHSc

Otago University PGdip General Practice

RCP Dip Child health

RCOG Dip Obs and Gynae

Nottingham University BM Bs BMedSci



Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

General Practice

Current appointment(s):

Clinical Director Midlands National Hauora Coalition

Prevocational Education Supervisor

Pharmac committees

NPPA panel

Medical educator

Locum GP

Waikato Faculty member

I have worked for over 27 years as a partner and locum in semi-rural and high needs practices. I have had National Leadership roles and have a diploma in strategic leadership. I am a mother, wife, daughter, and sister who enjoys time with loved ones and gardening.

New Zealand has a diverse landscape and population. My roles have enabled me to understand the issues faced by our rural and high need communities. My secondary care clinician relationships provide insight into the pressures in hospital medicine. Working for NHC with my Māori colleagues, I daily confront the issues of equity. My education roles mean I understand the problems which our younger Doctors are managing. I am a good listener who enjoys teamwork and problem solving. I would bring a pragmatic, collaborative, informed lens to the important role of ensuring safety and equity in health for all New Zealanders.

LOVE Timothy

Phone: 027 451 6094

Email: timwlove@gmail.com

Medical qualifications:

Mb ChB, FRACS

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Orthopaedic and Spinal Surgery

Current appointment(s):

Palmerston North Hospital

Crest Hospital



I am an orthopaedic surgeon in my 26th year of practice.

I have been on four private hospital boards and am experienced in medical governance.

I was treasurer of the NZOA and on the Education Committee.

I have just finished 7 years as Chairperson of the local private hospital's clinical advisory committee. This included creating and managing processes and care during the Covid pandemic as well as issues around credentialling, scope of practice and collegial behaviour.

I believe these experiences have given me the necessary communication skills and knowledge to be an effective member of the New Zealand Medical Council.

MULDER Roger

Phone: 021 278 5430

Email: roger.mulder@otago.ac.nz

Medical qualifications:

MBChB – University of Otago

FRANZCP

RANZCP



Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Consultation Liaison Psychiatry

Academic Medicine

Current appointment(s):

Professor – University of Otago, Christchurch

SMO – Te Whatu Ora, Canterbury

Professor and former Head of Department of Psychological Medicine, University of Otago, Christchurch. Have over 400 publications. Associate Editor of NZMJ. Clinical work in Consult Liaison Psychiatry. Involved in MCNZ work, particularly conducting VPA for over 20 years. A long involvement with Pacific mental health, both in Pacific islands and at Etu GP in Christchurch. Live in Christchurch and have a large extended family. Personal interest includes listening to music, reading, travelling and spending time with my family.

I am standing because I believe that we have a medical workforce crisis in New Zealand. As a consult/liaison psychiatrist, I have regular contact with medical and surgical specialists and GPs. We have a serious workforce shortage in most areas of medicine and high rates of burnout in those who are working. With medical colleagues, I have written papers around these concerns, sending copies to Ministers with no result. I hope MCNZ maybe more effective at getting these issues to be taken seriously. I am now working less so have time to work constructively as part of the MCNZ.

MUTHU Alexandra

Phone: 09 486 8920

Email: admin@dynamic.health.nz

Medical qualifications:

FAFOEM (2013)

Stanford Chief Wellness Officer Course (2023)

RACMA Leadership for Clinicians

PGDipPH(dist), PGDipPaeds, PGDipOM

Medical Review Officer (AMROA)

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Occupational & Environmental Medicine

Doctor Health & Wellbeing

Current appointment(s):

Clinical Director OH&SS Waitemata & Interim National Clinical Lead OH, Te Whatu Ora

Doctors Health Advisory Service Trustee

Chair RACP Safety, Health & Wellbeing of Healthcare Workers Working Group

RACP AFOEM Research Development Grant 2024 ("Doctor Health & Wellbeing in Aotearoa NZ")

CMO Dynamic Health & Life Edit

co-Chair Aotearoa NZ Dust Diseases Taskforce

ANZSOM Committee

RACP Media Spokesperson

Chartered Member Institute of Directors



My commitment to Doctor health and wellbeing led me to specialise in Occupational Medicine. I have the privilege of supporting many doctors with their health and wellbeing, helping them remain at work while balancing public safety.

My roles provide insights into workplace culture, systems and personal health issues that contribute to doctor distress and complaints.

I value advocacy, compassion, fairness, sustainable work, healthy workplaces and quality patient care.

I hope to offer my Board and clinical experience to the Health Committee. I offer a diverse perspective, and request your support to serve on Council.

RAKASZ Lucas

Phone: 020 400 04500

Email: lucas@rakasz.com

Medical qualifications:

MD PhD FEBNS

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Neurosurgery

Current appointment(s):

University PhD course



My decision to apply for a seat on the Medical Council comes from a passion to contribute to our profession and maintain the high standards that MCNZ has. I have a strong moral compass, and the courage to stand up and be heard on matters that affect our profession in NZ. Like many Doctors in NZ, my background is diverse, with some specific achievements that highlight my tenacity to build a strong council and robustly represent the voice of the public, and ourselves as the doctors that serve them.

RUYGROK Peter

Phone: 021738371

Email: peter.ruygrok@xtra.co.nz

Medical qualifications:

BSc, MBChB, MD (University of Auckland),
FRACP, FCSANZ, FESC

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Internal medicine - cardiology

Current appointment(s):

Cardiologist - The Heart Group and Intra (Auckland) and locum cardiologist Te Whatu Ora. Until recently consultant cardiologist, Auckland City Hospital and Honorary Professor of Medicine, University of Auckland, with over 200 publications.

Number of leadership roles, including Clinical Director Cardiology and Director of Cardiovascular Services. Served on numerous committees including; Australasian Cardiac Transplant Advisory Committee, NZ (Chair 2019-2022), Australasian Cardiology Advanced Training committees, Mercy Hospital credentials committee and ADHB Research review committee. Contributed to clinical practice reviews and audits and has been an intern supervisor.



I have recently retired from full-time cardiology practice after a highly rewarding and privileged career and continue part-time private practice (and some locums). I would like to “give-back” and now have the time to do so. Throughout my career I have promoted the benefits of collegiality and teamwork and have been drawn to the mentoring and training of young doctors, both trainees in cardiology and also of new interns as an intern supervisor. I feel I am able contribute to MCNZ by bringing experience, wisdom and understanding. I am committed to fostering equity, professionalism, mentorship and resilience.

SAMES Tristan

Phone: 021 369 998

Email: tristansames@gmail.com

Medical qualifications:

BHSc MBChB DCH

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Intensive Care and Emergency

Current appointment(s):

None

I work as an emergency and intensive care registrar at Dunedin Hospital and am active as an Attending Medical Practitioner with the Assisted Dying Service. Prior to attending medical school, I was a paramedic in Auckland for 10 years. I have additionally completed a BA, BHSc, and Post-Graduate Diplomas in Child Health and in Management, and am enrolled in bioethics and health law studies. Outside of work I am a Justice of the Peace and a Land SAR volunteer and am a keen multisport and trail running athlete.



I am running for medical council to bring the perspective of a junior doctor to the council, while being someone that has significant life experience to help support making challenging decisions, often with far-reaching impacts. I believe in the importance of holding ourselves accountable to high standards which our patients rightfully expect and deserve, but also supporting medical professionals to maintain these standards. I want to see Aotearoa New Zealand provide world-leading medicine from expert and collaborative clinicians by working closely with medical schools, unions, and other health regulatory bodies to nurture and grow the next generation of health professionals.

SCOTT-JONES Joseph

Phone: 07 312 4891

Email: drjo@pinnacle.health.nz



Medical qualifications:

MBChB MMSc (general practice)

FRNZCGP (dist)

MRCGP DipGerMed

DipObs DipSports DipClinEd

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

General Practice

Current appointment(s):

Clinical Director Pinnacle Incorporated

I strongly believe our profession brings significant value to society. We need to maintain public safety whilst balancing high expectations with compassion and understanding of the pressures all members of our profession face.

As a PHO clinical leader, practice owner, specialist GP and mentor I know the challenges of working in the community, appreciate the complexity of integrating community and hospital care and how workforce, workload and funding are impacting the system.

I bring with me governance experience as past chair of the Rural General Practice Network, Rural Health Alliance Aotearoa New Zealand, and past board member of the RNZCGP.

THOMPSON Colin

Feilding

Phone: 021 215 2658

Email: colin.thompson@midcentraldhb.govt.nz



Medical qualifications:

MBChB - University of Otago

FRACP - Royal Australasian College of Physicians

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

General Medicine, Endocrinology - Diabetes

Current appointment(s):

General Medicine - Physician in PNH

Endocrinology - Diabetes - Physician in PNH

Primary care experience in New Zealand and for several years with Sudanese displaced peoples. While overseas I lectured in undergraduate medicine and remain active in physician training and professional development. Several years ago, I undertook an MBA to further clinical governance, transparency, performance measurement and equity in healthcare. I am deputy chair of the Combined Medical Services, speak three languages, and have interests in geology, NZ botany, hiking, and geothermal heating.

Having worked and taught in four different countries, one of which was unstable and developing, I am clear that NZ has high levels of education and competence. But standards require maintenance and there is always more to learn from elsewhere. I personally enjoy CME and acquiring new skills, so the challenge is to make it easier for those who may have plateaued to continue to develop. Experience is also needed to balance rigour with understanding when helping colleagues who have had difficulties. I believe I can positively contribute to the MCNZ in this regard.

WATSON Peter

Phone: 021 863 426

Email: peterwatson1071@gmail.com

Medical qualifications:

MBChB FRACP FRACMA

Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

Medical Administration

Current appointment(s):

Self-employed



With a background spanning roles as a Paediatrician, Youth Health specialist, and CMO at Middlemore Hospital, I bring extensive clinical leadership from tackling challenges including the Whaakari - White Island disaster, the COVID-19 response, and national health system restructuring. As such, I have a deep appreciation of the work of doctors across diverse primary and secondary clinical settings.

After many years in Auckland, our family have returned to live in the South Island where I've broadened my insights into doctors' needs nationwide. Committed to serving the profession with diligence, integrity, and accountability, I aim to contribute meaningfully to the Council.

WOLF Bryan

Phone: 06 878 8109 x2503

Email: bryan.wolf@hbdhb.govt.nz

Medical qualifications:

Doctor of Medicine; Rush Medical College, Chicago, Illinois, USA.

Board Certification in Diagnostic Radiology, American Board of Radiology, USA



Principal branch(es) of medicine in which you currently practise:

General Diagnostic and Interventional Radiology

Current appointment(s):

Senior Medical Officer and Consultant Radiologist, Te Whatu Ora Hawke's Bay.

Radiology Services Clinical Governance Chairperson, Te Whatu Ora Hawke's Bay.

Senior leadership of the New Zealand public health system have breached Public Service and Medical Council principles, including open disclosure, informed consent, safe practice, cultural competency, professionalism and conduct/integrity standards. Conflicted actions benefited from deficient and/or disinterested systemic oversight, violated legislated rights and eroded democratic institutions. MCNZ failed to uphold, maintain and defend standards during this publicly visible campaign, which perpetuated intolerable patient risks, sacrificed medical profession credibility and betrayed national communities. I am seeking election on an ideological reform platform with specific intention to assert established Medical Council authority to support doctors practicing within wayward New Zealand healthcare institutions.

