



Policy for doctors registered in a general scope (and meeting certain requirements), or in a vocational scope of general practice who wish to perform tumescent liposuction

Policy statement	This policy explains the requirements that permit some doctors registered in a general scope or a vocational scope of general practice to perform tumescent liposuction in accordance with the requirements of the <i>Statement on cosmetic procedures</i> . This policy has been created because a number of doctors registered in a general scope, or a vocational scope of general practice have been performing the procedure safely for a number of years. The policy is intended to cover this group of doctors only. Doctors new to tumescent liposuction may only enter this field via vocational registration in a relevant procedural specialty or dermatology.
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- Background**
1. The *Statement on cosmetic procedures* defines tumescent liposuction as a “category 1” procedure. This means that:
 - It may be performed by a doctor registered in a relevant surgical scope of practice¹; who has the necessary training, expertise and experience in the procedure being performed; and whose competence in the procedure has been independently accredited²; or
 - It may be performed by a dermatologist whose competence in the procedure has been accredited by the New Zealand Dermatological Society; and who has the necessary training, expertise and experience in the procedure being performed; or
 - It may be performed by a doctor registered in a vocational scope of general practice if he or she has met the requirements of this policy.
 - A doctor who is not registered in a vocational scope of practice should only perform category 1 procedures if he or she is enrolled in a relevant vocational training programme.³ A doctor who is not registered in a vocational scope of practice and who wishes to perform tumescent liposuction must also meet the requirements of this policy.

- Procedures**
2. Individual doctors may apply to Council to have their scope of practice extended to include tumescent liposuction if they meet one of the following criteria:
 - a. are registered in a general scope (and participating in an approved vocational training programme); or
 - b. are registered in a vocational scope of general practice; or
 - c. are registered in a general scope of practice and:
 - Are not in vocational training; and

¹ For this purpose, the doctor must hold a postgraduate surgical qualification recognised by the Council as allowing registration within a relevant surgical vocational scope of practice..

² Independent accreditation may occur through a branch advisory body training programme or through a credentialing process.

³ For the purpose of performing tumescent liposuction, this includes the vocational training programme for general practice.

⁴ Criteria added August 2014.

- Have been practising tumescent liposuction since 2006 (when the *Statement on cosmetic procedures* was first introduced); and
 - Have suitable training / qualifications in appearance medicine (and especially tumescent liposuction); and
 - Can provide evidence of competence and safe practice in tumescent liposuction.
3. For the purposes of the *Statement on cosmetic procedures* holding an amended scope of practice and meeting recertification requirements will be regarded as a meeting the requirements of this policy.
 4. Applications are to be in writing to the Council’s Vocational Registration Coordinator. Applications should also be accompanied by:
 - A copy of the doctor’s CV.
 - Information about the doctor’s training and experience.
 - The names and contact details of three vocationally registered peers who can attest to the doctor’s clinical skills and can be contacted by Council.
 - The name and contact details of a peer willing and able to engage in a systematic review of your practice in tumescent liposuction and provide feedback, guidance and a critique of your performance.
 - Results of an audit or review that has been conducted within the previous 12 months and which relates to tumescent liposuction procedures performed by the doctor.
 - Payment of a fee as gazetted by the Medical Council from time to time.
 5. Each application will be considered by Council at the next available meeting.
 6. Council will assess applications on the basis of training and experience.
 7. Approval, where granted, will be subject to recertification requirements which will include:
 - Regular meetings with a peer group, with minutes of meetings provided with each APC application. Attendance is required at a minimum of six such meetings per year and must involve at least eight interactive hours.
 - Peer review (a minimum of ten hours per year) involving systematic review of practice in tumescent liposuction and feedback, guidance and a critique of performance.
 - Three yearly audit of practice⁵ by a person or body pre-approved by the Council⁶, with audit results forwarded to the Council.
 - Completion of multisource feedback involving both patients and colleagues, with results reported to Council. This survey will either be conducted through Council’s processes, or through use of RNZCGP or NZCAM survey tools.
 8. Doctors are also required to meet any other relevant recertification or collegial relationship requirements, in particular those expected of doctors registered in a vocational scope of general practice, or engaged in a vocational training

⁵ This audit must meet the Council’s requirements for “audit of medical practice”, A copy of these requirements is available on request. The audit must be focused on the safety and outcomes of tumescent liposuction procedures performed by the practitioner, and must include all such procedures performed by the practitioner in the prior three years. The outcomes must be benchmarked against comparative data from other practitioners.

⁶ The person conducting the audit must be registered in a vocational scope of practice, and should have experience in the audit of procedural work.

programme as appropriate. For further information refer to the Council's booklet on Recertification and continuing professional development.

9. Details relating to an amended scope of practice will be published on the online register in the following format:

Vocational Scope of Practice

A doctor who has completed his or her vocational training as a consultant and has appropriate qualifications and experience can be registered within a vocational scope of practice.

A doctor registered in a vocational scope must participate in an approved continuing professional development programme to maintain competence and be recertified each year.

Dr [Name] is participating in an approved recertification programme relevant to the vocational scope of General Practice.

Dr [Name] may work outside the stated vocational scope but must do so within a collegial relationship.

Conditions

Conditions on scope of practice under section 21 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 effective from [date]: That Dr [Name]'s vocational scope of general practice is extended to allow Dr [Name] to perform tumescent liposuction in accordance with the relevant Council policy and recertification requirements.

OR

General Scope of Practice

A doctor who has completed the requirements of a provisional general scope will be registered within a general scope of practice.

Examples are junior doctors who have completed their first post-graduate year and may be in vocational training, doctors who have not started, or have chosen not to do, vocational training or doctors nearing retirement who are no longer meeting the requirements for registration within a vocational scope of practice.

The doctor must establish a professional collegial relationship with another doctor who is registered within the same or related vocational scope, and must participate in appropriate continuing professional development to maintain and improve competence and to be recertified each year.

Dr [Name] practises medicine under supervision in the [programme name] training programme.

Conditions

Conditions on scope of practice under section 21 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 effective from [date]: That Dr [Name]'s general scope of practice is extended to allow Dr [Name] to perform tumescent liposuction in accordance with the relevant Council policy and recertification requirements.

Or

Dr [Name] is required to participate in the Inpractice recertification

programme for doctors registered in a general scope of practice administered by bpac^{NZ}.

Conditions

Conditions on scope of practice under section 21 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 effective from [date]: That Dr [Name]'s general scope of practice is extended to allow Dr [Name] to perform tumescent liposuction in accordance with the relevant Council policy and recertification requirements.

10. Amendments to scopes of practice will only be valid for one year. At the end of the year reassessment by Council is required. The reassessment will be on the basis of compliance with the recertification requirements outlined in 9 above.

Related policies

11. *Statement on cosmetic procedures*

Approved by Council:	April 2013
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