



NEW ZEALAND MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

10 November 2009

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Dear Michael

Consultation on Amendment to Scopes of Practice and Prescribed Qualifications

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this document. The NZMA supports the proposals stated in principle. We note however the following points:

New Scope – Assisting in a Pandemic or Disaster

- a) While we strongly support the creation of a new scope of practice to cover this situation we emphasise that the scope **must not** contain any element of compulsion.
- b) We trust that in preparing this scope of practice the Medical Council has made sure that arrangements are in place for those registered under this scope of practice who otherwise would not be registered, to have access to medical indemnity protection.

New Scope – Providing Teleradiology Services

- c) Although the NZMA continues to have reservations about the provision of medical services by doctors outside New Zealand, we support the proposed pathway.
- d) We note that this scope was created specifically to cover teleradiology but are aware that there are other services also provided by doctors overseas which are not covered (for example, pathology, and the use of overseas doctors supervising robotic and some endoscopic surgery). We wonder whether the Medical Council has considered these situations and if so whether it is also

developing a pathway to cover them? If not we strongly advise that the Medical Council consider these other areas.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Foley', written in a cursive style.

Dr Peter Foley
Chair