



Outcome of consultation - Proposal for the removal of the Podiatric Radiographic Imager scope of practice

Thank you to those individuals who took the time to read and respond to the consultation document issued 20 December 2023 which proposed the removal of the Podiatric Radiographic Imager scope of practice.

Podiatric Radiographic Imager scope of practice - A registered primary health care practitioner who holds the scope of practice of Podiatrist, who is qualified to use radiological equipment, and is licensed by the Ministry of Health Office of Radiation Safety, to obtain plain radiographic images and/or fluoroscopic images of the foot, ankle and lower leg.

Further Requirements - Applications for this scope of practice require the registered practitioner to obtain both a Source and User license from the Office of Radiation Safety (ORS) which are required to own, operate and maintain their own radiological equipment.

Consultation Process - The consultation was sent to all registered podiatrists (practicing and inactive) and to forty-one key stakeholders. The Board received seven written submissions from podiatrists, with one of those seven podiatrists including submissions from two of their patients. All submissions were reviewed by the Board at its 8-9 February 2024 meeting.

Decision - After careful consideration of the feedback, the Board resolved to approve:

- a. The removal of the Podiatric Radiographic Imager scope of practice, effective 1 April 2025, which has been published in the NZ Gazette [here](#).

The Board took into consideration the impact of this decision, especially as the 8-9 February 2024 Board meeting was relatively close to the start of a new Annual Practising Certificate (APC) renewal cycle. Therefore, the Board resolved to approve the removal of the Podiatric Radiographic Imager scope of practice at the start of the subsequent APC renewal cycle, effective 1 April 2025.

The consultation feedback can be read in full [here](#).

What does the proposed change mean for health consumers and practitioners - The Board consider that the impact on practitioners and consumers will be minimal as access to plain radiographic images and/or fluoroscopic images of the foot, ankle and lower leg are available to registered practitioners and consumers throughout Aotearoa New Zealand without the requirement for a practitioner to own, operate and maintain their own radiological equipment.

If you have any questions about this consultation summary, please don't hesitate to contact us.

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