

9 September 2025

**President Tracy Kunac**

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## **Call for Expressions of Interest: Interventional Radiology Advisory Group**

Pharmac | Te Pātaka Whaioranga is seeking expressions of interest to join its Interventional Radiology Advisory Group (IRAG).

The Group will give objective expert advice to Pharmac as it manages the interventional radiology category of medical devices. The group will provide advice on:

- national approaches to standardising and rationalising interventional radiology devices
- requirements and specifications for interventional radiology devices
- review clinical evidence and assess new technologies
- ensure interventional radiology devices are clinically appropriate, fit for purpose, and cost-effective.

## **Role of expert advisory groups at Pharmac**

The role of expert advisors is to provide objective, evidence-based and technical, clinical advice to support Pharmac's decision-making process. Any recommendations to Pharmac are made with reference to our decision-making framework – Pharmac's [Factors for Consideration](#).

Members are remunerated in recognition of the services they provide to Pharmac, including attendance at meetings, time spent preparing for meetings and for performing any other work requested by Pharmac. The current fee schedule for clinical advisors is at a fixed rate of \$840 per day or \$105 per hour. Please note these remuneration fees are set according to the [Cabinet Fees Framework](#). In addition, all travel-related expenses for Group meetings are paid for by Pharmac.

Pharmac is committed to improving health outcomes for all New Zealanders, including those with the highest needs (Māori, Pacific peoples, disabled people, women, and people living rurally). Members are expected to undertake their duties in a manner consistent with the Government Policy Statement (GPS) on Health 2024-27 and the Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Act

2022 health sector principles. We are also committed to having diverse and inclusive Advisory Committee / Group membership. We encourage expressions of interest that further these principles.

### **Who we are looking for**

Pharmac is seeking expressions of interest from professionals with expertise in the following areas:

- Interventional Radiologists
- Vascular Surgeons and Nurses
- Interventional Radiology Nurses
- Medical Imaging Technologists
- Bioengineers (with experience with interventional radiology devices)
- Clinical Product Coordinators (with experience with interventional radiology devices)
- Service Managers

### **What's Involved**

Pharmac is progressing work in the Interventional Radiology category to identify procurement opportunities that support equitable, sustainable, and clinically appropriate access to devices across New Zealand. The Group will provide advice at three stages to support Pharmac's planned procurement activities.

As a member of IRAG, you would be expected to:

- Attend a 2-hour online meeting in late November / early December.
- Attend a half day online meeting around February / March 2026.
- Attend a full day meeting around May / June 2026.
- Complete pre-reading in advance of each meeting.

Following these scheduled meetings, there may be future advice needed in the interventional radiology category.

### **About Pharmac's Work in Medical Devices**

Pharmac is working to improve transparency and consistency in the funding of interventional radiology devices across New Zealand through national contracting.

More information about this programme is available in the attached appendix.

## Next steps

We welcome expressions of interest from professionals with relevant clinical experience and a commitment to improving health outcomes across Aotearoa New Zealand.

If you, or someone you may know, would be interested in joining the Interventional Radiology Advisory Group, please provide the following information by a brief covering letter outlining your expression of interest and your latest CV by **23 September 2025**.

- Brief cover letter outlining your expression of interest and whether you would like to join the Group
- Your latest CV
- The name and contact details of two referees

Email your application to: [medicaldevicesadvisory@pharmac.govt.nz](mailto:medicaldevicesadvisory@pharmac.govt.nz)

To learn more about Pharmac's work in this Interventional Radiology Device Category area, contact Kendra Boyes, Device Category Manager: [kendra.boyes@pharmac.govt.nz](mailto:kendra.boyes@pharmac.govt.nz)

Should you require more information the Advisory Group or expressions of interest process, or require further time to consider this, please do not hesitate to contact us at us at [medicaldevicesadvisory@pharmac.govt.nz](mailto:medicaldevicesadvisory@pharmac.govt.nz)

Please note our review and appointment process can also take a few weeks. If there is strong interest in a particular area of expertise, we may not be able to include everyone. However, we are developing a broader database of expert advisors and can include those interested in future opportunities to support Pharmac's work.

Thank you in advance for considering this role, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Nāku noa, nā - yours sincerely



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## **Appendix – Background Information on the Medical Device Programme**

### **Pharmac's Medical Devices Programme**

Since being tasked by the Government in 2012 to take responsibility for medical devices, Pharmac has developed a strong understanding of the complexities involved in this area. Managing medical devices requires careful consideration of rapid technological advancements, the wide range of users, and their diverse needs.

The goal of Pharmac's Medical Devices Programme is to deliver better value, nationally consistent, and equitable access to hospital medical devices. This is achieved by extending the Pharmac model to devices purchased by Health New Zealand.

### **Our Approach**

In collaboration with Health NZ, sector partners, and suppliers, we are working to improve how medical devices are managed, invested in, and contracted. A key milestone in this work is the publication of a comprehensive list of medical devices currently used in public hospitals and specialist services across New Zealand.

This list will:

- provide a clear view of the devices funded and used in hospitals or provided for home use
- support consistent access across the health system
- enable better planning and decision-making for future investments
- help ensure the best possible health outcomes for New Zealanders.

### **Expert Advice for Medical Devices**

To support this work, Pharmac relies on robust and reliable expert advice. Given the fast pace of innovation and the complexity of evaluating medical devices for safety, effectiveness, and value, a flexible and tailored approach is essential.

A 'one sizes fits all' approach will not work for the volume of devices (~280,000) and the complexities associated with medical devices.

Pharmac's expert advice team is developing a flexible, integrated framework for medical devices and medicines. This includes:

- proportionate, right-sized decision-making processes
- alternative mechanisms to traditional committee reviews where appropriate
- ensuring timely, high-quality advice that meets the specific needs of medical devices.

### **Stay Informed**

To stay up to date, subscribe to our bi-monthly **Device Advice Newsletter**:

<https://pharmac.govt.nz/hospital-devices/device-advice>