



Strategic Plan

2017-2020



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VISION

Optimum health and wellbeing for all New Zealanders.

MISSION STATEMENT

Ensuring allied health professions are recognised and contribute to their full potential to enable New Zealanders to enjoy health and wellbeing

TAG LINE

Collaboration, Cohesion, Coordination.

STRATEGIC GOALS

1. To advocate for and raise the awareness of allied health within the policy and public arenas.
2. Provide education opportunities to advance allied health professions.
3. Recognise and pursue innovation and excellence within the health sector.
4. Foster collaboration across allied health professional associations.
5. Ensure that all our policies and practices are responsive to Te Tiri o Waitangi and to New Zealand's cultural diversity.

ALLIED HEALTH AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Allied Health Aotearoa New Zealand (AHANZ) is the incorporated society of allied health professional associations that work together to promote, advocate for and support allied health professionals. First established in 2001 as the Allied Health Professional Associations' Forum, AHANZ is the recognised connected voice of 29 allied health professional associations representing approximately 30,000 New Zealand health professionals and students. The leadership of AHANZ is provided by an Executive Committee (EC), elected from the member representatives. Currently the EC is chaired by Jennifer Pelvin, Director of Butler Pelvin & Associates.

AHANZ provides a forum for allied health professional associations to work together to:

- Raise the profile of allied health professionals;
- Make representations and submissions of common interest;
- Develop effective working relationships with government and other key stakeholders;
- Take an active approach and be involved in the development, implementation and monitoring of relevant policies;
- Be a key gateway for engaging with the allied health sector;
- Support member professional associations;
- Share resources, information and experience;
- Educate and raise awareness of a wider view of health and wellbeing; and
- Promote employment and professional standards for AHANZ member health professionals.

ALLIED HEALTH

The Allied Health Science and Technical workforce encompasses over 50 professions, each with their own distinct, specialized body of knowledge and skills. The workforce comprises more than 30,000 individual professionals and represent the second largest workforce in District Health Boards. These professionals actively work with people accessing health and disability services across a wide range of settings, including the education and justice sectors.

Whilst this workforce collectively supports patients across all age ranges and demographics, it is becoming evident that the services they provide are critical to maintaining mobility and independence for New Zealand's ageing and chronically ill population. In their practice, these professionals provide services and engage in activities which may include:

- prevention;
- assessment / evaluation;
- identification / diagnosis;
- treatment;
- rehabilitation / habilitation;
- advocacy;
- promotion of health and wellbeing;
- education;
- research; and
- leadership / management.

AHS&T professionals have relevant tertiary (or equivalent) qualifications, belong to professional associations, abide by appropriate code of ethics and standards of practice and adhere to recognised systems for monitoring ongoing competence.

A significant number of AHS&T professions are, along with doctors, dentists, nurses and midwives, regulated by the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance (HPCA) Act 2003. Such practitioners must be registered with the relevant regulatory body that issues annual practising certificates, considers complaints and takes disciplinary action when needed.

AHANZ is in a position to assist members to strengthen their internal processes and documented codes of professional conduct and ethics. By seeking to continually raise the level of health service delivery professionals provide and the healthcare outcomes the public can expect, those professions which are not regulated by the HPCA Act may still be highly regulated through one or more of their profession's own voluntary self-regulation processes.

It should be noted that the terms *voluntary self-regulated* or *non-regulated* do not imply a lack of professional standards. Many voluntarily self-regulated and non-regulated professions are otherwise widely and professionally acknowledged by their AHS&T peers and are professions who are represented within the membership of AHANZ.

SUCCESS CRITERIA

Allied Health Aotearoa New Zealand members have identified the following 5-year success criteria (as at December 2013) against which performance monitoring will be regularly undertaken:

By 31 December 2019:

- Allied Health Aotearoa New Zealand will be recognised as the 'go to' organisation which is trusted and respected.
- Allied Health Aotearoa New Zealand will have grown into a more cohesive 'Executive Run Body' with an inclusive Executive.
- Allied Health will have more energy 'in the sector' as agents-of-change.
- Allied Health will be a regular part of the national decision making forums alongside doctors and nurses.
- Allied Health will not be seen as an 'add-on'.
- Individual members of Allied Health Aotearoa New Zealand member organisations will be fully aware of the role of Allied Health Aotearoa New Zealand.
- There will be 'concrete' outcomes and decisions at each Allied Health Aotearoa New Zealand meeting.
- There will be a clearly defined Allied Health advisory role within the Ministry of Health.
- There will be an Allied Health Aotearoa New Zealand champion in each region.
- There will be a portfolio of grassroots success stories for Allied Health.



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