

## Competence and Accreditation Standards Consultation Feedback Response

This document overviews the consultation process on the 2022 Competence and Accreditation Standards for Aotearoa New Zealand Pharmacy Profession and summarises the feedback received.

We believe that healthy and constructive conversations do lead to positive outcomes for the profession of pharmacy – we sincerely thank everyone who made a submission.

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### Introduction

The consultation process for all the standards commenced in September 2022 and finished in November 2022 plus a short consultation on reinstalling one behaviour into the Competence Standards for Aotearoa New Zealand Pharmacist Prescribers March 2023-April 2023.

We consulted on three separate documents:

1. [Competence Standards for Aotearoa New Zealand Pharmacists](#) .
2. [Competence Standards for Aotearoa New Zealand Pharmacist Prescribers](#)
3. [Aotearoa New Zealand Accreditation Standards for Pharmacy Programmes](#)

We sought feedback from pharmacists, the public, and interested stakeholders via a Survey Monkey. The consultation process was the same for all documents. All three sets of the Standards were approved and in effect:

- Competence Standards for Aotearoa New Zealand Pharmacist and Pharmacy Prescribers come into force on 1 April 2024,
- Aotearoa New Zealand Accreditation Standards for Pharmacy Programmes will become mandatory for the next scheduled accreditation round from 2024 onwards.

Submissions were received from the following groups and individuals during the public consultation:

- Clinical Advisory Pharmacists Association,
- Pharmaceutical Society of New Zealand,
- Pharmacy Defence Association,
- Pharmacy Guild of New Zealand,
- New Zealand Hospital Pharmacists' Association,
- School of Pharmacy, University of Auckland,
- Ngā Kaitiaki o te Puna Rongoā o Aotearoa | Māori Pharmacists Association,

- Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners,
- School of Pharmacy, University of Otago,
- 44 individual / anonymous submitters.

The total number of responses was 64, divided as follows:

Competence Standards for Aotearoa New Zealand Pharmacist consultation	Competence Standards for Aotearoa New Zealand Pharmacy Prescribers consultation	Aotearoa New Zealand Accreditation Standards for Pharmacy Programmes consultation	Inclusion of one behaviour in the new Pharmacist Prescriber Competence Standards
<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>20</b>

### Main changes overview

The feedback received during the consultation process was reviewed, synthesised, and thematically analysed.

In October 2022 we met with the Accreditation Expert Working and Advisory Group (AE-WAG) to discuss all the standards documents, feedback received and the key submission themes.

The key themes and feedback were then used to finalise the Competence and Accreditations standards documents with the AE-WAG.

### Final decision

The new version of:

- [Accreditation Standards and Guidance for Pharmacy Programmes](#)
- [Competence Standards for Pharmacists](#) and,
- [Competence Standards for Pharmacy Prescribers](#)

All standards were endorsed by Te Tiriti Advisory Group and approved by Council Members.

### Key Submission themes

This is the summary of the feedback received to all consultation and includes list of changes from previous documents.

- [Appendix one: Competence Standards for Aotearoa New Zealand Pharmacist Consultation Key Submission Themes](#)
- [Appendix two: Competence Standards for Aotearoa New Zealand Pharmacy Prescribers Key Submission Themes](#)
- [Appendix three: Accreditation Standards for Pharmacy Programmes Key Submission Themes](#)
- Appendix four: Inclusion of one behaviour (4.2) in the new Pharmacist Prescriber Competence Standards Summary of feedback. Council consulted between 1 April-16 April 2023 on reinserting a behaviour which was in the updated prescribing competence standards in 2021 but mistakenly omitted from the 2022 version. The behaviour is: “4.2 Only prescribes medicines with adequate, up-to-date knowledge of their actions, indications, efficacy, dose, established and emerging contraindications, interactions, cautions, and adverse effects.”

The feedback from the consultation was overwhelmingly supportive of reinstatement of this behaviour, however two submissions questioned the use of the word “*emerging*” and argued that use of the word set unattainably high

expectations for pharmacist prescribers. Council determined that the term “emerging” remains appropriate as it describes the need to be actively aware of emerging information and its relevance to the person being treated. The behaviour has therefore been included in the new pharmacist prescriber standards (as published 15 June 2023).

## Consultation documents

Links to the consultation documents we published on Council’s website.

- [Competence Standards for the Pharmacy Profession and Guidance](#)
- [Public consultation on: Aotearoa New Zealand Competence Standards for Pharmacist Prescribers](#)
  - [Short consultation on the inclusion of one behaviour in the new Pharmacist Prescriber Competence Standards](#)
- [Public consultation on: Aotearoa New Zealand Accreditation Standards and Guidance](#)