

# College of Respiratory Nurses Chairpersons' Report 2024

Kia ora koutou

It is our pleasure to present the Chairpersons' annual report for 2024.

We wish to thank those members who have served on our committee during the last 12 months.

Tamsin Fitzsimmons (Secretary)  
Katherine Waters (Treasurer)  
Mikayla Neil (Airways magazine editor and former Chair)  
Miriam Manga  
Neelam Kantha

We sincerely appreciate the time and energy you all have given. Thank you also to Annie Bradley-Ingle, Professional Nursing Advisor and Elisabeth Auchinvole, National Office Administrator for their valuable support.

The committee has worked hard organising our biennial symposium. A special thank you to Teresa Chalecki, former committee member and interim chair (2022/23) who has worked tirelessly towards making our symposium a success.

Miriam and Neelam resigned earlier this year. Tamsin is resigning at our AGM on 30 August. Miriam has taken up a position on the New Zealand Nurses Council Board. Congratulations Miriam.

At the time of writing, we have four committee member vacancies, including Secretary. We encourage members who are interested in joining our amazing team to get in touch to find out more. Our current membership is 321 and welcome new members. It is possible to belong to more than one college or section and is open to those working in respiratory nursing, working with individuals/whanau living with respiratory disease or has a particular interest in respiratory health.

The College of Respiratory Nurses (CRN) continues to promote and support excellence in Respiratory Nursing in Aotearoa New Zealand. We have a particular focus on Maranga Mai within our annual plan for 2024/25 and we are committed to embedding Te Ao Māori, in our policies and processes, and positively influencing our actions.

Highlights and achievements include:

Advocating for better health outcomes for all New Zealanders but especially the many New Zealanders living with respiratory disease/s. Our advocacy furthermore promotes health equity and supports Te Tino Rangatiratanga and our commitment to actualizing Te Tiriti.

Advocacy through submissions to government agencies this year include:

- Pharmac in support of respiratory medications
- Minister of Health (MoH) regarding the repeal of the smoke-free legislation and repeal of the \$5 co-payment charge on medicines
- MoH on consultation on the Nicotine levels in Vapes/Vaping harm

- Ministry of Innovation, Business and Employment and MoH regarding the proposed reduction of insulation required for new houses and CRN committee support for the ban of manufacturing of engineered stone in New Zealand

Members of the college hold a range of positions that advocate for Respiratory care and Nursing including the Nursing Council of New Zealand, TSANZ, Asthma and Respiratory Foundation NZ scientific advisory group and guideline groups, Lung Foundation Australia Bronchiectasis Registry.

Providing opportunities and resources to nurses toward their professional development and promoting excellence in respiratory nursing

- Two applications have had success grant applications for further education.
- Nursing Council requested CRN design a question for the International Qualified Nurses final state exam.
- Planning of our biennial symposium for 30 August 2024 in Auckland. The theme is 'We are what we breathe – how environment impacts lung health and promises an exciting range of expert speakers.

The College newsletter Airways is released three times a year and provides updates on Respiratory Nursing, College activities, and Respiratory guidelines. This has also been an avenue for members to contribute their experiences in Respiratory Nursing.

CRN is working alongside NZNO to improve the visibility of College's and Sections and grow our membership and promote nursing excellence throughout Aotearoa New Zealand.

Nga mihi nui,

Jacque Westenra  
Lisa Mason  
(Interim Co-chairs)

