

## Read the latest Quality Pānui!

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Quality Pānui – March 2025



### Welcome to the March 2025 Quality Pānui!

This month we would like to highlight:

- Statistics for 2025
- CQI reaccreditation
- Changes to ACLS requirement for GPs
- Quality in practice: Avondale Family Doctor
- Highlights from the International Forum on Quality and Safety in Healthcare
- Guidance coming soon: RMDs, RCDs, and standing orders
- Medicines reconciliation
- Quality visit to Pegasus PHO
- Cornerstone module competition
- Assessor spotlight: Yvonne Youngman
- Ethical considerations for telehealth services
- The care you don't have time to give

Please email us at [quality@rnzcgp.org.nz](mailto:quality@rnzcgp.org.nz) if there are any items you would like us to cover in the next newsletter. We enjoy receiving your feedback and if there is anything we can assist you with please let us know.

### The Quality Programmes Team

## Statistics for 2025

The Quality Programmes team recently finalised the 2025 General Practice Quality Data Insights report.

The report highlighted several noteworthy positive changes in certification and accreditation over the past 12 months.



For instance, the overall percentage of practices with an expired Foundation Standard certification compared to the same time in 2024 has reduced markedly from 19% (208 practices) to 9% (99 practices). This is an improvement of 10% in one year!



## CQI reaccreditation

The College has recently launched a new Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) reaccreditation module for practices who wish to maintain their CQI accreditation in the College's Cornerstone programme.

CQI accreditation operates on a three-yearly cycle, and the new reaccreditation module has been designed to be both efficient and resource-conscious. The requirements for reaccreditation are not the same as the initial CQI module. You can read about the brand new CQI reaccreditation module in the [March GP Voice](#) edition.

## Changes to ACLS requirement for GPs

### 6.2: Urgent health needs: Changes to ACLS requirement for GPs from June 1st, 2025

All College members have been informed of changes to ACLS requirements, including their impact and implementation timeline.

A review conducted last year found that some courses, such as CORE Skills and refresher courses, did not meet best practice standards. To address this, a minimum six-hour contact time, time is the equivalent of the CORE immediate or above ACLS courses, which include an assessment, and will ensure all members receive training that is thorough and of a high standard.

To accommodate GP members with upcoming CORE Skills or refresher course bookings, the new requirement will take effect on 1 June 2025. Current resuscitation certificates remain valid until expiry, after which GP members must complete an approved CORE Immediate or higher course. Early completion is encouraged.

Updated ACLS endorsement criteria are available on the College website and the Foundation Standard guidance for criteria 6.2 has been updated with the same content.

## Quality in practice: Avondale Family Doctor

Avondale Family Doctor was the third prize draw winner of our Amtech Medical voucher!

We caught up with Wendy, the practice manager, to find out about the team's experience completing the Cornerstone Equity module, why they did it and what they learnt.

As a VLCA, solo GP practice, with a culturally diverse population, they were also able share tips for other small practices wanting to get accreditation. To read the article in the February GP Voice edition, [click here](#).

## Highlights from the International Forum on Quality and Safety in

## Healthcare

Sandy Bhawan, our Quality Programmes Manager, attended the International Forum on Quality & Safety in Healthcare in Brisbane last November.

The forum brought together over 5,000 health care professionals from across the globe. The event, jointly organised by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) and BMJ Group explored the theme of 'Pushing Boundaries,' focusing on innovation in health care quality and safety. The conference highlighted the need for creative, community-centred health care models and new approaches to address evolving health challenges.



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To read the article in the February GP Voice edition, [click here](#).

Guidance coming soon:

### 12.1 Infection control

In 2024, the Ministry of Health in New Zealand replaced AS/NZS 4815:2006 with the new Australian standard, AS 5369:2023 for the reprocessing of reusable medical devices (RMDs) in the health sector.

With the shift to this new standard for reprocessing RMDs, a section of the guidance for 12.1 will soon be updated.

### 11.6 Residual current devices (RCDs)

There has been general confusion around the requirements for RCDs and body protected areas. This has been compounded by an inconsistency amongst electricians when interpreting the legislation. The College has sought expert advice to help understand what is needed in the general practice setting, especially as this is critical to patient safety. The new guidance will be more comprehensive and equip managers with a better understanding of the legal requirements.

### 9.2 Standing orders

Standing orders are typically process and document heavy. Because medicines are involved, it is important practices understand what is needed and how to conduct the process correctly.

To help practices navigate the requirements, we are working on clarifying the guidance and improving the resources.

## Medicines reconciliation

The medicines reconciliation audit template has been updated to more accurately reflect current processes. The updated audit template includes a suggested process for conducting the audit. Practices will continue to be able to adapt and modify the template in accordance with their practice policy.

## Quality visit to Pegasus PHO

Sandy Bhawan, our Quality Programmes Manager, was recently hosted by the Pegasus PHO Quality Team in Christchurch. It was a fantastic opportunity to meet a team dedicated to upholding high-quality standards in general practice in the Christchurch region.

A big thanks to the team for their ongoing work to support quality in general practice!



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## Cornerstone modules promotion has ended

The promotion for practices that complete either the Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) or Equity module accreditation, with a chance to win one of five \$700 Amtech Medical vouchers, has ended.

[Find out more about the CQI and/or Equity module today.](#)

## Assessor spotlight: Yvonne Youngman



Yvonne is a College endorsed assessor for both the Foundation Standard and CQI module.

In addition to hearing about Yvonne's wealth of experience across the health sector, this was, by far, our favourite anecdote: 'I recall sending some of our patients with possible minor fractures to the local veterinary clinic in Motueka for an x-ray as the trip to Nelson was often unavailable or too expensive, or there wasn't a radiologist available'. [February GP Voice](#) edition.

## Ethical considerations for telehealth services

*'A case study of a practical ethical checklist for direct-to-*

“

The question then becomes whether we should be using telehealth services more effectively to support continuity of care rather than have accessibility as a priority.

consumer services’.

- Dr Tania Moerenhout, FRNZCGP and Senior Lecturer at the Bioethics Centre, University of Otago, and Dr Madeleine Reid

The rise in telehealth consultations and the use of AI scribes saw a rapid increase during the height of Covid-19. In response to this increase, Dr Moerenhout and Dr Reid completed a study on direct-to-consumer telehealth services and have created a ‘practical ethical checklist’.

You can read more about their checklist and study, in the [February GP Voice](#) edition.

## The care you don’t have time to give

*‘Busy practice? Let Healthify He Puna Waiora support your patients’ self-care’.*

- Dr Emma Dunning, Clinical Editor and Advisor, Health Navigator Charitable Trust

Healthify He Puna Waiora has published a collection of free self-care resources to help support patients. The tools and guides can be edited, linked or printed, for your convenience.

You can access links to the full kete of resources via the [February GP Voice](#) edition.



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