

NEWS

Have your say on euthanasia...

David Seymour's [End of Life Choice Bill](#) had its first reading in Parliament at the end of last year and has been referred to Parliament's Justice Select Committee. The NZMA will make a submission on this Bill and we are now [seeking feedback](#) from members by **29 January** to inform this process. Members are encouraged to provide feedback to the NZMA and may also consider making their own [submission to select committee](#).



We continue to [welcome feedback](#) on the NZMA-published [independent report on euthanasia](#) by Professor Grant Gillett. This report examined ethical arguments and codes, personal and professional commitments, and the current state of the law, and included commentary from a variety of sources. The NZMA Board and NZMA Ethics committee both agreed that the report supported the NZMA's position, which was set out in our [2005 position statement](#) and in our [2016 submission](#) to the Health Select Committee's investigation on ending one's life in New Zealand. [Your views](#) on the NZMA's position statement and submission are also welcome

In today's NZMJ...

New Zealand Medical Journal...you will need to be logged in to the NZMJ website to read these articles. [Contact us](#) if you have any problems logging in.

Editorial

- [Adolescent and young adults with cancer in New Zealand—understudied and underserved](#)
- [Compassion defined: it's time for doctors to step up](#)

Article

- [The burden of cancer in 25–29 year olds in New Zealand: a case for a wider adolescent and young adult age range?](#)
- [Compassion from a palliative care perspective](#)
- [Increasing rates of people identifying as transgender presenting to Endocrine Services in the Wellington region](#)
- [The effect of trampoline parks on presentations to the Christchurch Emergency Department](#)



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Good health and good sense are two of life's greatest blessings. ~ Publilius Syrus

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NZMA diary

NZMA CEO Ms Lesley Clarke and policy manager Dr Sanji Gunasekara met with Rosemary Matthews from the Royal

- [Type of cows' milk consumption and relationship to health predictors in New Zealand preschool children](#)
- [Rates of unsuspected thyroid cancer in multinodular thyroid disease](#)
- [A systematic review of leadership training for medical students](#)

Letter

- [Evaluation of the Report on Euthanasia for the New Zealand Medical Association by Grant Gillett](#)
- [Publication and authorship challenges experienced by medical students involved in biomedical research](#)
- [Research opportunities for medical students: time flies when you're having fun](#)
- [Euthanasia and abortion](#)

NZMJ in the media

Today's NZMJ material created plenty of media interest, with articles on gender reassignment in the [Otago Daily Times](#), [Newshub](#) and the [Dominion Post](#); young adults with cancer on [Radio NZ](#); trampoline injuries on [Radio NZ](#) and [TVNZ](#); cows' milk consumption on [Newshub](#).

Feedback sought on cannabis bill

Your feedback is sought on the [Misuse of Drugs \(Medicinal Cannabis and Other Matters\) Amendment Bill](#), which had its first reading last week. The bill will:

- introduce an exception and a statutory defence for terminally ill people to possess and use illicit cannabis and to possess a cannabis utensil
- provide a regulation-making power to enable the setting of standards that products manufactured, imported, and supplied under licence must meet;
- amend Schedule 2 of the Act so that cannabidiol (CBD) and CBD products are no longer classed as controlled drugs.

Check out the NZMA's [position statement on medicinal cannabis](#) for background and [provide feedback](#) by 9am Tuesday 23 January, please.

Seminar on support for at-risk youth

The Oranga Tamariki Evidence Centre Te Pokapū Taungakitanga is hosting a seminar to discuss how at-risk youth can be better supported to successfully make key life transitions.

Transition from Care to Independence: Mya Liston-Lloyd has a background in sociology and social policy. She will speak about a formative evaluation that looked at services designed to help young people move from being in care to becoming independent.

Supporting the Transition of Vulnerable Learners into Secondary School: Nicholas Pole is the Chief Review Officer with the Education Review Office. His presentation will explore how information from programmes supporting at-risk young people might be used to enhance institutional settings, systems and practices.

When: Thursday 1 February 2018

Time: 10:30 – 11:30am

Where: 56 The Terrace (Kakapo Room, Level 1, Aurora Centre)

Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists about the End of Life Choices Bill.

MEMBER BENEFITS

Jetts 24 Hour Fitness

NZMA members can take advantage of corporate rates on membership at Jetts 24 Hour Fitness. Pay just \$10.95 per week or \$418 per year, per person, plus a reduced access fee of \$19 (usually \$49).

Membership includes one free 30 minute personal assessment. There are no lock-in contracts and Jetts members can access any of their 56 gyms around New Zealand. To join, drop into your nearest Jetts gym or visit www.jettsonline.co.nz. You'll need proof of your NZMA membership (membership card or number) to join. For more information, [see the flyer](#).

HiNZ

NZMA members are eligible for a discounted annual member rate of \$149 inc. gst.

This will give you full access to HiNZ's extensive webcast library of peer-reviewed presentations from the HiNZ Conferences, enabling self-directed learning in the field of digital health.

NZMA members also receive a discount on HiNZ Conference registration.

To become a HiNZ member, head to the [HiNZ website](#).

ADVISORY

Advance Directives

As outlined under Right 7 (Right to make an informed choice and give informed consent) of the Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights, every consumer may use an Advance Directive in accordance with common law. An Advanced Directive is defined in the Code as meaning "a written or oral directive

There is no cost to attend, but seats are limited, so please register on the [EventBrite page](#).

Immunisation Advisory Centre workshop

Professor Arthur Reingold is holding a public lecture on Wednesday 14 February 2018. Arthur Reingold is Professor and Head, Division of Epidemiology, and the Edward Penhoet Distinguished Chair of Global Health and Infectious Diseases, Emeritus at the Berkeley School of Public Health, University of California.

Dr Reingold's current research interests include prevention of transmission of HIV in developing countries, the intersection of the HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis epidemics, malaria in Uganda, emerging and re-emerging infections in the US and globally, sexual transmission of hepatitis C virus, vaccine-preventable diseases, and respiratory infections in childhood.

At a time when misinformation concerning vaccines and vaccination is widely available on the internet and when available evidence suggests that provision of scientifically accurate information to "vaccine hesitant" parents may not suffice to change their minds, there is no "one size fits all" solution.

In his lecture titled Achieving High Levels of Childhood Immunisation: What are the Options When the "Truth" Differs from the "Facts", Professor Reingold will provide a wide-ranging discussion of these topics and summarise aspects of the global experience in promoting immunisation and reducing or combatting "vaccine hesitancy."

Date: 14 February 2018

Time: 5.30-7.00pm

Venue: Lecture Theatre 505-007

Ground floor, Building 505, 85 Park Road

Grafton Campus

Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences

The University of Auckland

[RSVP to attend this public lecture](#) by Prof. Arthur Reingold. [Click here](#) for the full lecture abstract.

Breast Cancer research funding round open

The Breast Cancer Foundation's major research grant round, Innovation and Technology in Breast Cancer 2018, is now open, with applications closing February 5, 2018. The RFP and application forms are [available online](#). They welcome applications with short- to medium-term clinical potential (including clinical trials) and interests cover not only the traditional cancer disciplines of radiology, pathology, surgery and oncology, but also wider fields such as bioengineering, immunology, genetics, chemistry, informatics, automation, mathematics and human interface technology.

Summer school courses around NZ

1918 Influenza Pandemic and its lessons

7th February 2018, University of Otago, Wellington

2018 marks 100 years since the 1918 influenza pandemic that claimed the lives of 50 to 100 million people (three to five percent of the world's population). In New Zealand, more than 8,600 died.

The Otago Medical School is holding a one-day 1918 Influenza Pandemic Summer School on the day before the Influenza Symposium. More

1. by which a consumer makes a choice about a possible future health care procedure; and
2. that is intended to be effective only when he or she is not competent."

The NZMA has produced information about doctors' obligations around Advanced Directives in line with the Code.

This information and sample forms can be used by patients and is available [here on the NZMA website](#), or you can email Tessa O'Brien (tessa@nzma.org.nz) for a copy.

- [Advance directives](#) [pdf]

information and registration for this and other courses can be accessed via the [University of Otago/Public health/Summer school](#) webpage.

Public health law

26 February 2018, Auckland

A [brochure is available](#).

Tax and health

28 February, Wellington

A [brochure is available](#). Early registration closes on 20 December for these courses.

Nominations close today for Medical Council elections

Nominations close today for elections to the Medical Council of New Zealand. Every three years, elections are held to nominate four medical practitioners to be considered by the Minister as appointments to the Council.

The current elected members, whose terms end in June 2018, are:

- Dr Jonathan Fox
- Dr Pamela Hale
- Dr Martin Searle
- Dr Curtis Walker.

Nominations close on Friday, 19 January 2018. Voting will open on Tuesday, 20 February 2018 and close on Friday, 23 March 2018. The Minister will be advised of the top four polling candidates on Tuesday, 27 March for consideration of appointment as members of the Council for a 3-year term from July 2018.

An [information sheet](#) and [nomination paper](#) are available. The detail of the election process can be found in the Regulations [here](#). The election is being managed by [electionnz.com](#) using the Single Transferable Vote (STV) process.

Extension to applications for PGY1 Medical Council rep

The Medical Council of New Zealand has extended the deadline for the appointment of a PGY1 intern to its Education Committee until Monday, 29 January 2018, in response to the request of several District Health Boards that will only meet with its new cohort of PGY1s towards the end of November 2017.

The Committee is a standing Committee of Council that advises Council and makes recommendations about ways to promote medical education and training in New Zealand. The Committee's [terms of reference](#) and the [letter about the appointment and extension](#) are available.

Summer special on Asthma & COPD course

The Asthma and Respiratory Foundation NZ is currently offering a [summer special](#) on the online professional development course - **Asthma & COPD Fundamentals eLearning**. Get a **25% discount** on the online course when purchased and completed between 1 November 2017 and 31 January 2018.

The course is the most current Asthma & COPD Fundamentals course available in New Zealand, for all registered health professionals including GP's, nurses and pharmacists. The discounted price is \$135. Visit cpd.whitireia.ac.nz to enrol.



Asthma & COPD Fundamentals eLearning

Get a head start on 2018 with our summer special!

25% discount

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Discounted price: **\$135**

Visit cpd.whitireia.ac.nz to enrol

Asthma Respiratory Foundation NZ | Whitireia New Zealand

Mental Health in Crisis events

Professor Peter Gøtzsche and Robert Whitaker are taking part in a speaking tour of Australia and New Zealand, presenting at Mental Health in Crisis events, along with a range of other speakers. The New Zealand events are in Christchurch (26 Feb 2018), Wellington (27 Feb 2018), Hamilton (28 Feb 2018) and Auckland (2 March 2018).

For further details of events, including speakers, and registration, [go to the website](#).



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photography/illustration
competition

CLICK HERE for full details



Situations vacant and classified ads

If you're thinking about your career options, remember to check out the NZMJ website's [Vacancies page](#). This is a good place to start looking for that new position. Latest Vacancy

ads include:

- [General Practitioner | Bay of Plenty](#)
- [GP required | Rangiora](#)
- [Fellow - Gastroenterology | Auckland](#)

In this week's Classified section:

- [Professional consulting rooms available to lease | Whangarei](#)
- [Medical rooms to let | Parklands, Christchurch](#)
- [Practice for sale | Auckland](#)

Remember: members can advertise for free—[classifieds](#) and vacancies—[via Hotline](#).

EVENTS

Below are just some of the upcoming health sector events. To read the full list, go to the [NZMA events page on our website](#).

CHOOSING WISELY workshop: Putting the theory into Practice

9AM–5PM, Te Papa, Wellington, Friday 2 March 2018

[BOOK NOW FOR EARLY BIRD RATES](#)

If you enjoyed our symposium in 2017, you'll love this workshop. We're bringing together our Choosing Wisely innovators to tell you how to get your programme up and running, and how to keep up momentum.

You'll learn how to develop a campaign and make sense of guidelines and statistics...and more.

Watch our website, www.choosingwisely.org.nz for updates and a programme.

Vital Signs is a weekly email bulletin with news and information about the NZMA. It aims to keep members in touch with the NZMA's work, and complement the NZMA newsletter Medspeak and website. If you do not wish to receive Vital Signs, please [unsubscribe here](#).

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