

New Zealand Clinical Senate - Consumer Role Statement

Context

The New Zealand Clinical Senate (Senate) is currently made up of a diverse membership of approximately 100 clinicians, recruited from across the system including community, primary care and hospital and specialist services.

To ensure consumer and whānau perspectives are central to decision making, the Senate is now seeking to recruit five consumer members.

The role of the Senate is to tackle big issues that impact on the whole health system (community, primary, hospital and specialist) and impact on all clinicians and areas of health e.g., not just one area such as Cardiology.

Senate members will meet 3 times a year for full day face to face meeting in either Auckland, Wellington or Christchurch, with each meeting focused on a different topic.

The purpose of these meetings is to gather clinical and consumer insights that inform recommendations to support decision-making by the Health New Zealand (HNZ) Board.

All roles will be for a 3-year term.

Responsibilities:

Consumers will:

- Champion Senate recommendations
- Communicate with relevant networks and collaborate on issues of strategic importance
- Model leadership behaviours
- Prepare for meetings by reviewing materials and understanding the issues
- Declare any conflict of interest
- Be available for 3 full days per year and travel if needed

Selection Criteria

We are seeking individuals who are not currently employed as health professionals, but who have recent personal or whānau experience with health services. Your lived experience and community insight are essential to shaping a more inclusive and responsive health system.

1. Has had recent personal or whānau lived experience within health services.
2. Demonstrate strategic and system-wide thinking through previous roles or experiences Has held roles that demonstrate strategic and system wide thinking.
3. Be actively involved in networks that expose them to a range of consumer perspectives
4. Be comfortable speaking in group settings and engaging with health system leaders
5. Will complete a police vetting check and undertake reference checks (prior to be offered membership).

Support and Remuneration

- Accessibility requirements to be discussed and support agreed.
- Orientation and preparatory sessions will be held online before each Senate meetings.
- A meeting fee of \$680 for a full day meeting will be paid.
- Travel will be booked and covered by HNZ, in line with Clinical Senate logistics guidelines.
- Reading time is included in the meeting fee and will not be paid separately.
- Orientation and pre-meeting sessions will be compensated at \$50/hr, in accordance with the HNZ- Reimbursement Rates for Consumer Engagement policy.

Support Contacts

- Jo Witko (Principal Advisor) key contact person for any queries/support.
- Mel Metuariki (Administrator) support with logistics, travel and logistics.
- Jonathan Christiansen (Chair, NZCS) support orientation/onboarding and available for escalation if needed.

How to apply:

We are seeking five Consumers to join the Senate. Please complete the EOI form and send to HNZ-NZClinicalSenate@tewhatauora.govt.nz

Deadline is COB 8th December 2025

Late applications will be excluded from the process.