

CULTURAL SAFETY AND HEALTH EQUITY

Description and purpose

RNZCUC recognises Maori as the tangata whenua of Aotearoa New Zealand and our obligations and responsibilities arising from Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the founding document of New Zealand. Te Tiriti o Waitangi establishes Maori rights to health equity and confers the responsibility of protection for Maori to the Crown.

In New Zealand cultural safety has importance in the attainment of equitable health outcomes for Maori.

MCNZ defines cultural safety as:

The need for doctors to examine themselves and the potential impact of their own culture on clinical interactions and healthcare service delivery.

The commitment by individual doctors to acknowledge and address any of their own biases, attitudes, assumptions, stereotypes, prejudices, structures and characteristics that may affect the quality of care provided.

The awareness that cultural safety encompasses a critical consciousness where healthcare professionals and healthcare organisations engage in ongoing self-reflection and self-awareness and hold themselves accountable for providing culturally safe care, as defined by the patient and their communities.

Read more about this [here](https://www.mcnz.org.nz/our-standards/current-standards/cultural-safety/) <https://www.mcnz.org.nz/our-standards/current-standards/cultural-safety/> (link)

CPD Requirements

Fellows are to complete one educational activity relating to cultural safety or health equity in a triennium. (need eportfolio to support this)

Registrars are to complete one educational activity relating to cultural safety or health equity during their training, or once every three years. (need eportfolio to support this)

Activities completed during a doctor's employment or as part of their role and participation in another vocational branch's recertification are accepted.

Use the eportfolio to record cultural safety activities.

****New requirement that I think makes sense to introduce because it aligns with MCNZ strategy and direction – need to discuss: do we endorse any partic courses? – this is a good site – the cultural safety resource is free and looks like we may be able to negotiate bulk licenses for other courses such as health literacy etc <https://mauriora.co.nz/>****