



**New Zealand Nurse Endoscopists Association (NZNEA) report.  
February 2024**

The New Zealand Nurse Endoscopists Association (NZNEA) was formed and officially named in November last year, and a friend of co-chair Sofia Krylova-Smith very kindly donated their time to design our logo.

Currently, there are seven practicing Nurse Endoscopists (NE's) in NZ, with an additional one not currently practicing, and sadly another one just resigning from her role to pursue a career in primary care. While we are very sad to see Jacqui Fletcher leave her NE career behind, we wish her all the best in her endeavors in primary care. Also, a huge congratulations to Nicola Griffiths on passing her Nurse Practitioner exams. Our NE team now has five Nurse Practitioners and two Clinical Nurse Specialists.

December 2023 also saw our very first Nurse Endoscopists Study Day, which we plan on being an annual event. It was nicely timed for the day prior to the Annual Scientific Meeting and had a great turn out with six NE's and one NE trainee attending. We were very privileged to have Helen Livett & Sharon Powell, two amazing NE's from the UK (called Clinical Endoscopists in the UK) to provide four hours of teaching on both endoscopy and non-endoscopy skills, including EMR technique, breaking bad news, and lesion recognition. We were also lucky enough to be able to spend time picking their brains on developing the NE role and training NE's, as Helen and Sharon are both senior clinical endoscopist trainers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Helen and Sharon for travelling all the way from the UK for such a very short amount of time, in order to support the progression of NE's in NZ. It was a great connection to make and I am sure will be invaluable in the future. I would also like to say a big thank-you to Fresenius Kabi for their financial support in getting Helen and Sharon to NZ, and also to Pharmaco for sponsoring our afternoon tea at our meeting.

In the short time we have been formed, we have named our subgroup, developed a logo, appointed a small committee, and are in the process of designing a page for the NZgNC website to support Nurse Endoscopists and budding Nurse Endoscopist Trainee's in New Zealand. A date is set for our next NZNEA zoom meeting, which we plan to have every quarter, and will be discussing issues such as how to train and support NE's in the future, and how to recruit more support to the role throughout the country. We hope the formation of this group will strengthen the role of the Nurse Endoscopist in the New Zealand Health System and in future see the role grow and develop to its full potential.

*Tania Waylen*  
Co-chair NZNEA