



# NZNO Women's Health College Newsletter

July/August 2022

## Abortion Care—Say No to Complacency

Emma Macfarlane was featured in the July issue of Kaitiaki. A range of topics was discussed in her piece, including the changes to abortion care in New Zealand, the impact of Roe v Wade and the importance of ongoing safe access to abortions. [The full article is available here.](#) You must log in to Kaitiaki for access.

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## From the Committee

Kia ora! You may notice the Women's Health College Newsletter has had an update.

This change reflects the purpose of the newsletter: to share information, educate and engage with the wider membership.

The newsletter will be sent out bi-monthly and include news of interest, educational information, and highlight current committee work. There will also be a committee biography section in each newsletter.

In alphabetical order, current committee members are

Maya Bachu, Denise Braid, Jackie Gartell, Janine Graham-Jones, Jill Lamb, Emma Macfarlane, Lauren Moore, and Callie Reweti. Professional Nursing Advisor is Julia Anderson.

Part of creating engagement includes hearing from YOU! We want to know what you are doing.

Have you written or found an informative paper or article? Have you assisted in implementing changes or completed workplace projects that others may find helpful? Do you have any general feedback about the newsletter?

Please share it with us!

Contact the newsletter via email at: [whcnznosec@gmail.com](mailto:whcnznosec@gmail.com)

Please put newsletter as the subject.

## Help Us Grow

Print the poster found on the last page and encourage your colleagues to scan and join!

Interested in serving on the committee? Email the [secretary](#) for application information.

## Hysteroscopy Update

This year, Lauren Moore will become New Zealand's first hysteroscopist.

Hysteroscopy involves using a scope to view the inside of the cervix and uterus to diagnose and treat abnormal bleeding and precancerous and cancerous uterine conditions.

Over the last several years, the WHC has worked to develop hysteroscopy standards. We have also partnered with Ara Institute of Canterbury (soon to become part of Te Pūkenga) to create an educational pathway for nurses interested in becoming a hysteroscopist.

Ara is set to begin offering the course in Semester 1 of 2023.

Interested in more information? Visit the [course page](#) on Ara's website and contact Kaye Milligan at: [kaye.milligan@ara.ac.nz](mailto:kaye.milligan@ara.ac.nz).

**Save the Date: 2023 Women's Health Conference**

May 4th through May 6th, Tauranga

More details to come

## 2022 Women's Health College Conference & AGM

Janice Grant and Jill Lamb put on a spectacular Women's Health College Conference in Christchurch from May 26 through May 28.

Life Goes On was the theme for the 2022 conference held at the beautiful Te Pae Christchurch Convention Centre.

Attendees were greeted with drinks and nibbles during the registration and welcomed by Eru Waiti, Kaiwhakahaere Hauora Māori, Christchurch Campus. The evening concluded with an inspiring presentation by Ali Adams, CEO of Christchurch NZ.

The first conference day was a full day of presentations on various topics. Speakers covered

pelvic pain, endometrial cancer, nutrition, interprofessional care, and more.

Women's Health College members presented a number of posters and papers and were eligible for prizes.

Dr Ashley Bloomfield was due to speak but appeared via pre-recorded video to deliver his message as he attended the World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland.

The day concluded, and attendees returned to their rooms before meeting again for an evening of dinner and dancing.

The conference's final day started with an optional hysteroscope workshop, which

allowed attendees to learn about and see how the scopes work.

Speakers presented various topics, including managing abnormal bleeding and miscarriages, contraception updates, and women's health issues in Kiribati.

The Annual General Meeting was held, and the conference closed with an act from the comedian, breast cancer survivor and psychiatrist Jo Ghastly.

Thank you to Janice Grant and Jill Lamb for all the work you two put into hosting an excellent Women's Health Conference!

### Life...or Conference Goes On

Co-convenor Jill Lamb was unfortunately struck by COVID-19 and unable to attend the conference in person. Jill did, however, attend via Zoom each day.

Bruce Lamb, the husband of Jill, was to MC the event, but he too was in isolation with COVID. Their son, Christopher, stepped up to the task and did not disappoint!

A special word of thanks to Christopher for jumping in and making this year's conference a success!

Janice Grant also deserves our gratitude for ensuring the conference went on!



## 2022 Conference Highlights

## Grant Recipients

Nine Women's Health College members received funding to attend the 2022 Women's Health College Conference in Christchurch.

Each recipient was awarded \$450 and appreciated the assistance in attending the conference.

Recipients were: Margaret Burns, Kaye Ford, Cheryl Guinguing, Barbara

Gunn, Anna Jasmin, Melissa Judd, Lesley Pottinger, Nicola Skelton, and Heather Symes.

The Women's Health Committee received messages of gratitude and conference feedback. Here is a selection of quotes.

First of all I would like to thank the organization for paying for my conference registration fee. I feel so lucky to be able to attend such a successful conference with wonderful speakers and very useful topics.

- Cheryl Guinguing

The speakers and products reps were all engaging and covered topics that will assist in extending my knowledge and help to support, assess and inform patients in my department.

- Barbara Gunn

I attended the Friday full-day session and was suitably impressed with the programme, which included presentations from nursing, midwifery and medical colleagues.

- Margaret Burns

It ignited a desire in me to do better in looking after women under our care.

- Anna Jasmine

## Changes to LARC Training

The Long-acting Reversible Contraception Training Standards are part of the Contraceptive Access and Equity initiative undertaken by the Ministry of Health. Te Whatu Ora—Health New Zealand aims to ensure practitioners offering contraceptive care are safely trained in best practices and use consistent

national guidelines.

The rollout of national contraception guidelines occurred in 2020. The Ministry has now issued LARC Training Standards.

What does this mean? Those providing LARC insertions or removals now have national training standards, including theo-

retical and practical components and competencies.

The Ministry of Health has also issued guidelines and requirements for those involved in teaching healthcare providers to insert and remove LARC.

**More information can be found on the Ministry of Health Website by following the links below.**

[LARC Standards](#)

[Standards for LARC Trainers](#)

[Contraception Guidance](#)

## Meet the Committee—Callie Reweti



Hello everyone!

I am Callie Reweti, the Women's Health College Newsletter voice. I am a Registered Nurse in Delivery Suite at Te Whatu Ora—Waikato District.

I began my nursing career as a labour and delivery nurse in the USA. I moved to Aotearoa New Zealand in 2012 where, I have continued to work in women's health.

I am undertaking post-graduate study with aspirations of becoming a women's health nurse practitioner.

**Women's Health College Education Fund closes October 1, 2022. Applications are available on the NZNO Scholarships and Grants page.**

## Women’s Health Committee Work

2022 has been a busy year for the Women’s Health Committee. The AGM was the first face-to-face meeting committees have been able to have in some time.

Recently the committee met again to discuss ongoing mahi and new matters of interest.

Work on hysteroscopy standards and providing feedback on training are ongoing, but we’re nearly there. See the latest update on page one.

Abortion care is another area where the committee continues to be involved.

We provide feedback and liaise with the Abortion Regulatory Authority to ensure access to safe abortions care is readily available as intended by the law change.

Work in this area will be expanded upon further in upcoming newsletters.

The design and implementation of the National Women’s Health Strategy are in

the early stages. The committee has been invited to provide some input and feedback. We will have continued involvement as progress is made.

Finally, the WHC committee is initiating work to ensure the nurses working in the maternity setting are recognized, valued and supported.

We are currently in the preliminary stages, so watch this space for updates.

### WHC Committee

- Jill Lamb—Chair
- Maya Bachu—Treasurer
- Lauren Moore—Secretary
- Janine Graham-Jones—Membership
- Callie Reweti—Newsletter
- Emma Macfarlane—Committee Member
- Jackie Gartell—Committee Member
- Denise Braid—Committee Member; Seconded
- Julia Anderson—NZNO Professional Nursing Advisor



Women's Health College is the professional nursing voice for women's health and related issues.

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The Women’s Health College is  
506 members strong

[Click to Visit the WHC Online](#)

### Our Vision

The Women's Health College will be a significant driving force to ensure all women in Aotearoa/New Zealand will receive optimum healthcare.

### Our Mission Statement and Strategic Plan

Women's Health College is the professional nursing voice for women's health and related issues. As stakeholders we will advocate for women and influence health policy. We aim to provide nursing leadership to promote, support and advance nursing practice in relation to women’s health in Aotearoa/New Zealand.

### About Us

In 2017 we became the Women’s Health College. The history of our group dates back to 2003. Our members are a diverse group of women, working across a wide range of women’s health specialties from all regions of New Zealand.

The college offer annual conferences and educational opportunities through scholarships, the committee works on behalf of the members to raise awareness of women’s health issues.

We contribute to submissions at a national level that affect the health and well being of women in Aotearoa New Zealand.



**WOMEN'S  
HEALTH COLLEGE**  
NZNO

# Join Us

Women's Health College is the professional nursing voice for women's health and related issues.



NZNO Members are eligible to join up to 3 colleges and sections  
Scan the QR code to be taken to the WHC signup page