

**T**he *Journal of Primary Health Care* (JPHC) is a peer-reviewed journal which has replaced the *New Zealand Family Physician*. It is an interdisciplinary publication aimed at moving research into primary health care practice and practice into research. This includes the fields of family practice, primary health care nursing and community pharmacy as well as areas such as health care delivery, health promotion, epidemiology, public health and medical sociology of interest to a primary health care provider audience.

The journal publishes peer-reviewed quantitative and qualitative original research, systematic reviews, papers on improving performance and short reports that are relevant to its primary health care practitioners. For the aim, scope, instructions to authors and templates for publications see [www.rnzcgp.org.nz/journal-of-primary-health-care/](http://www.rnzcgp.org.nz/journal-of-primary-health-care/).

JPHC acts as a knowledge refinery to provide busy practitioners with up-to-date knowledge about the latest evidence and best practice. Continuing professional development includes pithy summaries of the latest evidence such as *Cochrane Corner*, a *String of PEARLS* (Practical Evidence About Real Life Situations) and *Charms & Harms* (evidence of effectiveness and safety of complementary and alternative medicines). JPHC includes *Poumanu* (treasures of Maori wisdom) and *Gems of NZ Primary Health Care Research* published at home and internationally.

Evidence can help inform best practice. However sometimes there is no evidence available or applicable for a specific patient with his or her own set of conditions, capabilities, beliefs, expectations and social circumstances. Evidence needs to be placed in context. General practice is an art as well as a science. Quality of care lies also with the nature of the clinical relationship, with communication and

with truly informed decision-making. JPHC publishes viewpoints, commentaries and reflections that explore areas of uncertainty on aspects of care for which there is no one right answer. Debate is stimulated by the *Back to Back* section where two professionals present their opposing views on a topic. There is a regular *Ethics* column. *Letters to the Editor* are welcomed.

While published in New Zealand by the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners, much of this research has generic implications. Our Editorial Board comprises renowned and active primary care clinicians, clinical and scientific academics and health policy experts with both New Zealand and international representation.

### EDITOR

**Dr Felicity Goodyear-Smith:** Associate Professor, Department of General Practice and Primary Health Care, University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand; [editor@rnzcgp.org.nz](mailto:editor@rnzcgp.org.nz)

### DEPUTY EDITORS

**Dr Derelie Mangin:** Associate Professor, Department of Public Health and General Practice, University of Otago, Christchurch, NZ  
**Prof. Tony Dowell:** Professor and Head of the Department of Primary Health Care and General Practice, Wellington School of Medicine, University of Otago, NZ

### EDITORIAL BOARD

**Prof. Bruce Arroll:** Professor and Head of the Department of General Practice & Primary Health Care, University of Auckland, NZ  
**Dr Jo Barnes:** Associate Professor of Pharmacy, School of Pharmacy, University of Auckland, NZ  
**Prof. Jenny Carryer:** Professor of Nursing, School of Health and Social Services, Massey University, Palmerston North, NZ  
**Prof. Peter Crampton:** Dean and Head of Campus, Wellington School of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Otago, NZ  
**Dr Pat Farry:** Director of Te Waipounamu Rural Health Unit, University of Otago, NZ  
**Ms Eileen McKinlay:** Senior Lecturer in Primary Health Care, Department of Primary Health Care and General Practice, University of Otago Wellington, NZ  
**Dr Barry Parsonson:** Psychologist for NZ Ministry of Education and International Consultant, UNICEF (Georgia) Training Project for Institutional Staff working with disabled children  
**Dr Shane Reti:** Assistant Professor, International Program Director Clinical Informatics and CEO of Clinical Informatics Industrial Research, Harvard Medical School, USA  
**Prof. Kurt Stange:** Professor of Family Medicine, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, USA and Editor, *Annals of Family Medicine*  
**Dr Colin Tukuitonga:** Associate Professor and CEO of the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs, Wellington, NZ

### SUBMISSIONS

Please send all submissions to:

The Editor: [editor@rnzcgp.org.nz](mailto:editor@rnzcgp.org.nz), or to:

The Editorial Assistant—**Cherylyn Borlase:** [editorialassistant@rnzcgp.org.nz](mailto:editorialassistant@rnzcgp.org.nz) accompanied by a covering letter as outlined at:

<http://www.rnzcgp.org.nz/journal-of-primary-health-care/#cover>

### SUBSCRIPTION AND ADVERTISING QUERIES

**Cherylyn Borlase,** Publications Coordinator  
RNZCGP, PO Box 10440, Wellington 6143, New Zealand  
[jphcnz@rnzcgp.org.nz](mailto:jphcnz@rnzcgp.org.nz)

The *Journal of Primary Health Care* is the official journal of the RNZCGP. However, views expressed are not necessarily those of the College, the Editor, or the Editorial Board. ©The Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners 2009. All Rights Reserved.