

Medicines Adverse Reactions Committee – vacancy for an epidemiologist/biostatistician

Medsafe is seeking applications for one **epidemiologist/biostatistician** for the Medicines Adverse Reactions Committee (MARC), an independent expert advisory committee to the Minister of Health.

The MARC provides advice on potential adverse reactions to medicines. This is an important part of the regulatory framework for safeguarding public health in New Zealand.

Kōrero mō te tūranga | About the role

Being a member of a technical advisory committee is rewarding and challenging. You will be committed to improving the health of New Zealanders through contribution to:

- improving medicines safety
- pharmacovigilance
- the regulation of medicines
- balancing the benefits and risks of harm of medicines

The MARC meets four times a year in person in Wellington. Depending on the agenda, meetings may run for up to 7 hours, and require between 3 and 10 hours of preparation. Reading materials are prepared by Medsafe and provided to the MARC before each meeting. Members are reimbursed for their time and travel expenses.

The Director-General of Health appoints members to the Committee for a three-year term. This term can be renewed once, for a further three years.

Kōrero mōu | About you

The successful applicant for this role will have:

- publications in the field of clinical epidemiology/biostatistics
- an interest in pharmacoepidemiology and medical statistics
- skill in appraising and communicating statistical information.

It would also be beneficial if you have experience in the health sector or board/committee governance.

The New Zealand Government recognises that diversity enables our committees to be high-performing and is committed to delivering greater diversity to statutory boards and ensuring they represent the diversity in New Zealand's population, including gender, ethnicity, disability, age and geographic location. We encourage people from all backgrounds to apply, especially those who can reflect the needs, values, and beliefs of Māori, Pacific peoples and people with disabilities. Applicants should also have an understanding of and be committed to meeting the obligations of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Ko wai mātou | Who we are

[See the MARC Committees page](#) for more information, including the Terms of Reference and the Committee process.

If you want further information or clarification, please email MARC@health.govt.nz or call Medsafe on (04) 819 6800 and ask to speak to the MARC Secretariat.

Me pēhea te tono | How to apply

Applications close 30 October 2024.

To apply, please complete the application form provided below and email this together with your current curriculum vitae (CV) to: MARC@health.govt.nz

Application Form (Word document, 83.7 KB, 8 pages)

Medsafe will consider the applications and make recommendations to the Director-General of Health, who decides on the appointment of Committee members. Following the Director-General's decision, Medsafe will notify applicants of the outcome. This process may take up to 12 weeks after applications close.

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

3 December 2024

133 Molesworth Street
PO Box 5013
Wellington 6140
New Zealand
T+64 4 496 2000

Professor Thomas Lumley

By email: [REDACTED]

Tēnā koe Professor Thomas Lumley

Appointment to the Medicines Adverse Reactions Committee

As per my delegated authority from the Minister of Health under schedule 6, clause 5(5) of the Public Service Act 2020, I hereby appoint you as the epidemiologist member of the Medicines Adverse Reactions Committee, pursuant to section 8 of the Medicines Act 1981, for a three-year term commencing on 4 December 2024 and ending on 3 December 2027.

Attached to this letter are the terms and conditions of your appointment in the members' handbook. Any necessary information will be provided by the Committee's Secretariat, Tegan Coventry.

Please formally acknowledge your reappointment by signing the attached memorandum and emailing it to marc@health.govt.nz.

Thank you again for your service on the Committee and congratulations on your appointment.

Yours sincerely



Dr Diana Sarfati
Director-General of Health
Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora

cc Tegan Coventry, MARC Secretariat, Medsafe, Ministry of Health
marc@health.govt.nz

MEMORANDUM

To: Tegan Coventry
MARC Secretary
Medsafe
PO Box 5013
WELLINGTON 6145

Subject: **Appointment to the Medicines Adverse Reactions Committee**

From: Professor Thomas Lumley

1. I acknowledge my appointment to the Committee, under section 8 of the Medicines Act 1981, as the epidemiologist member for a three-year term commencing on 4 December 2024 and ending on 3 December 2027.
2. I understand the terms and conditions of my appointment as described in the Members' Handbook.

Signed

Date