Nurse Endoscopist News

Endoscopy performed by nurses is New Zealand has continued to grow this year and what was a small group of Nurse Endoscopists is now a group of thirteen.

We have seven qualified Nurse Endoscopists, three current trainees, another about to start training this year, and two further lined up to start training next year. One of our own NE's is even travelling from Wellington to Palmerston North to ensure the trainee in Palmerston North is able to continue training when there is no gastroenterologist to train her.

We have been working with Health New Zealand/Te Whatu Ora on developing the NE role, and were extremely excited when funding for the salaries for three of our trainees as Clinical Nurse Specialists was approved by HNZ/TWO, enabling these trainees to commence training.

We get many emails through our NZNEA email from both national and international nurses enquiring about the role, what is required and where to start. Currently, we are also working with HNZ/TWO on how to increase our NE workforce, how to train those who are in smaller centers, as well as how to streamline recruiting internationally – in particular from the UK where they have many highly trained & skilled Clinical Endoscopists.

Our contribution to endoscopy is also being recognized more than previously, as we are being invited to join endoscopy-related working groups and committees. We are also trying to support our colleagues over the ditch in Australia to gain more momentum with their NE training.

Our next meeting will be during our yearly face to face NE Study Day, Tues 17 November at Te Pae Christchurch Conference Centre. If you are interested in joining NZNEA, attending our meeting, or connecting with us in any way, please see our page on the NZGNC website, or email us at nzneassoc@gmail.com.

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