

14

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**THE NZ  
REGISTER OF  
ACUPUNCTURISTS INC**

Ryan McLean  
Sector Policy  
Ministry of Health  
P O Box 5013  
Wellington

20 December 2007

Dear Ryan

We attached the New Zealand Register of Acupuncturists Inc submission for the consultation Document Review for the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003. A copy was emailed to you today.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely

Lesley Haiselden  
Registrar

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**New Zealand Register of Acupuncturists Inc  
Consultation Document  
Review  
Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003  
December 2007**

**To**

Ryan McLean  
Sector Policy  
Ministry of Health  
P O Box 5013  
Wellington

20 December 2007

This submission is from the New Zealand Register of Acupuncturists Inc (NZRA)

Acupuncture was approved by the Minister of Health on 1 August 2007 as an additional profession for inclusion under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003.

We will restrict our comment to only those areas which may directly affect our profession.

Should you require any additional information we can be contacted:

New Zealand Register of Acupuncturists Inc  
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17 Waikare Street  
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Contact  
Ms Paddy McBride  
President

**New Zealand Register of Acupuncturists Inc  
Comments**

4. Are the provisions in section 7 of the Act operating in a way that ensures that non-qualified persons do not claim or imply to be qualified practitioners and what, if any, changes do you recommend (note that issues around enforcing breaches are dealt with in the section titled 'Enforcement of the Act' which is set out below)?

*Refer question 45.*

36. Are the provisions for adding new professions or health services working and what, if any, changes would you make?

*It is stated that psychotherapy is a new authority currently being established. Acupuncture is another of the professions which have received approval from the Minister of Health for inclusion under the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003. As no new profession has completed the process as set out in sections 115 and 116 it would be difficult to comment on how it works or if any changes should be made. We believe that Part 6 of the Act: Structures and Administration - Registration authorities and registration authority structures in relation to appointing authorities in respect of additional professions should remain unchanged.*

45. What, if any, other matters are you aware of in respect of the operation of the Act and what changes do you recommend?

*One of the impacts upon non regulated practitioners or occupational groups is that when a person is struck off from a Registration Authority can continue to practise. An example is the recent case of GP.*