

From: [REDACTED]
To: [AHPRA Consultation](#)
Subject: English language skills requirements consultation
Date: Friday, 15 September 2023 2:09:35 PM

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Kia ora koutou,

We appreciate that the timeline for consultation for this ended 13th September 2023; and that the online portal and word document templates are no longer available.

We, Te Poari Tiaki Waewae o Aotearoa - Podiatrists Board of New Zealand wish to support:

1. Setting the minimum requirements for the writing component of an English language test at 6.5 IELTS (or equivalent for other accepted tests) while retaining 7 in each of the other three components (reading, speaking and listening) and an overall score of 7, taking into account international Benchmarking; and 2. expanding the range of recognised countries where evidence supports doing so.

We acknowledge and have read the findings from the Kruk review and agree that this may mitigate issues in terms of health workforce demands. We are mindful that the regulators are staying true to best-practice and that the review considers risk-based assessment in consideration of patient safety and quality of care.

We apologise for the late support and will be closely monitoring the outcome.

Nga mihi,
Belinda Ihaka
Chair of the Podiatrists Board of New Zealand