

Policy statement on the place of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in carrying out the Board’s regulatory functions under the HPCA Act

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<p>The Board considers that Te Tiriti o Waitangi (‘Te Tiriti’) is an important part of the fabric of New Zealand society and affirms its commitment to implementing Te Tiriti in ways that are appropriate to the HPCA Act under Section 3 and 118 and so far as this is possible within the constraints of the HPCA Act.</p>	
<p>Purpose</p>	<p>In 2007 the Minister of Health appointed the PBANZ Board, the body corporate under Section 115 of the Act. The principal purpose of PBANZ is to protect the health and safety of the public by providing mechanisms to ensure that registered psychotherapists are competent and fit to practise their professions.</p> <p>The Board’s functions are defined under Section 118 of the HPCA Act.</p> <p>The Board notes that Te Tiriti is not referred to in the HPCA Act and thus has prepared a policy statement in respect of Te Tiriti.</p> <p>The purpose of this policy statement is to outline the Board’s position and intentions on how Te Tiriti will inform and guide PBANZ and the Board in carrying out its regulatory functions.</p>
<p>Background</p>	<p>In Aotearoa, New Zealand, Te Tiriti established an agreement pertaining to the relationship between Māori and the Crown. The Government affirms that Māori, as Tangata Whenua, hold a unique place in the country and the nature of this relationship has been confirmed through interpretations of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, which stem from decisions of the Waitangi Tribunal, the Court of Appeal and the Privy Council.</p> <p>It is widely accepted that the basis for respect between the indigenous people (Tangata Whenua, those who are Māori) and others (those who are not Māori) is set out in Te Tiriti. Central to Te Tiriti relationship and implementation of Treaty principles is a common understanding that Māori will have an important role in implementing health strategies for Māori, and that the Crown and Māori will relate to each other in good faith with mutual respect, co-operation and trust.</p> <p>Te Tiriti o Waitangi is acknowledged as the text that was offered to and signed by the majority of the Māori signatories. However, the Board specifically refers to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, as the version that is acknowledged in NZ law.</p>

Implementation	<p>In giving effect to this policy the Board will pay due regard to the spirit and intent of Te Tiriti. The Board will establish a standing committee to develop and monitor PBANZ's compliance with its policy. The committee will be known as Te Tiriti o Waitangi Standing Committee (ToWSC).</p> <p>Board Members and staff, individually and collectively, will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. seek to be informed about the meaning and implications of Te Tiriti for their work; 2. seek advice and guidance on incorporating Treaty principles into their work; 3. seek to undertake from time to time, training on Treaty related issues; 4. use Section 118(i) of the Act to ensure that psychotherapists are informed about the competencies needed to work appropriately with Māori; 5. recognise and provide for Māori interests when and wherever possible within the parameters of the HPCA Act; 6. via the accreditation process, ensure that psychotherapists are being adequately prepared to practice competently with Māori clients; 7. in time, produce written material that provides information and guidelines to inform and educate psychotherapists about issues such as Te Tiriti and Māori health in psychotherapeutic practice.
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Date of updates:

Date to be reviewed: