

Thinking of Rehabilitation Medicine?

Rehabilitation medicine is that part of the science of medicine involved with the: prevention and reduction of functional loss, activity limitation and participation restriction arising from impairments; management of disability in physical, psychosocial and vocational dimensions; and improvement of function.

Rehabilitation medicine emphasises maximal restoration of the physical, cognitive, psychosocial and vocational functions of the person, the maintenance of health and the prevention of secondary complications of disability.

Overview of Rehabilitation Medicine

Rehabilitation physicians:

- diagnose and assess a person's function associated with injury, illness or chronic conditions, to maximise their independence and improve and maintain quality of life
- provide specialist knowledge and expertise in the prevention, assessment, management and medical supervision of a person with a disability
- evaluate medical, social, emotional, work and recreational aspects of function
- work with children and adults using an evidence-based collaborative approach with other disciplines
- have a unique overview of the skills and expertise of other health professionals, to develop a patient-centred, individualised treatment plan in a range of settings including home, public and private hospitals, and community rehabilitation centres and clinics.

Paediatric Rehabilitation Medicine

Physician training is undertaken through the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) via the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (AFRM) and consists of:

- a minimum of 36 months of Paediatric & Child Health Basic Training
- followed by a minimum of 36 months of Advanced Training in Paediatric Rehabilitation Medicine
- work-based learning and assessment requirements, including the AFRM Fellowship Clinical and Written Examinations.

Trainees may apply to enter the Advanced Training programme if they:

- have completed Paediatric and Child Health Basic Training programme
- have successfully completed the College's Clinical and Written Examinations
- hold current medical registration and
- have secured an accredited training position.

Once the training is satisfactorily completed, Fellowship of the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (FAFRM) and Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (FRACP) is awarded.

General Rehabilitation Medicine

Physician training is undertaken through the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) via the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (AFRM) and consists of:

- a minimum of 48 months (four years) of Advanced Training in Rehabilitation Medicine
- work-based learning and assessment requirements, including the AFRM Fellowship Clinical and Written Examinations

Trainees may apply to enter the Advanced Training programme if they:

- have completed two full years of postgraduate supervised training in general medical and surgical areas
- hold current medical registration and
- have secured an accredited training position

Once the training is satisfactorily completed, Fellowship of the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (FAFRM) is awarded.

For both programmes:

Over the course of the training programme, all trainees must carry out a variety of teaching and learning activities, including work-based learning and assessment requirements, and other programme requirements in consultation with their supervisors.

All advanced training occurs in supervised placements within RACP accredited sites. Please note that the training programme can be completed in Australia and New Zealand and trainees may complete more than one Advanced Training Programme at a time.

It is likely that you need to complete placements in multiple DHBs whilst completing vocational training.

Personal qualities required to be a Rehabilitation Medicine Physician

- fostering of a patient-centred approach to health care
- maintenance of a balanced and broad perspective on health care delivery
- ability to work with others is essential
- clinical leadership
- championing of physical disability
- preparedness to learn and adopt new and validated approaches to diagnosis and management, despite logistical difficulties, and to change work practices when appropriate
- willingness to reflect on, and learn from, mistakes
- preparedness to change management plans
- tolerance of uncertainty
- ability to cope with unexpected disappointments, equanimity, resiliency and calmness in the face of challenging clinical demands
- desire to contribute to improvements in the health system
- desire to foster clinical practice, research and teaching in general internal medicine
- preparedness to acknowledge doubt and uncertainty in clinical practice.

Specialty Training Programme Information

Medical College

[Royal Australasian College of Physicians \(RACP\)](#)

Fellowship/Qualification

Upon completion of the Advanced Training in General Rehabilitation Medicine: Fellowship of the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (FAFRM)

Upon completion of the Advanced Training in Paediatric Rehabilitation Medicine: Fellowship of the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (FAFRM); and Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (FRACP)

Application and Selection process

Application/selection [Advanced Training in Rehabilitation Medicine](#)

Contact details New Zealand: rehab@racp.edu.au

To find out more about physicians/paediatricians and other specialty areas, [click here](#). This also provides a useful Q&A section.

Further information can be obtained on [Royal Australasian College of Physicians \(RACP\)](#)

Resident Medical Officer (RMO) Information

Demand for vocational training posts is currently not available

RMO training registrar positions contracted

Northern	Midland	Central	South Island	Total
0.8	0	0	2	2.8

(September 2016 RMO census)

Regions

Northern:

Northland, Waitemata, Auckland, Counties Manukau DHBs

Midland:

Lakes, Tairāwhiti, Bay of Plenty, Waikato, Taranaki DHBs

Central:

Hawke's Bay, Wanganui, MidCentral, Wairarapa, Capital and Coast, Hutt Valley DHBs

South Island:

Nelson Marlborough, Canterbury, South Canterbury, Southern, West Coast DHBs

Senior Medical Officer (SMO) Information

Year	Number of NZ New Fellows
2015	NOT AVAILABLE
2014	NOT AVAILABLE

Average Age of SMOs	Number registered with the Medical Council	% of international medical graduates in the workforce
51	24	57

Number by Region (September 2016 SMO census)

Northern		Midland		Central		South Island		Total	
FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount
6.9	7	0	0	1	1	3.1	6	10.9	14