

Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery

Thinking of Otolaryngology Surgery?

Otolaryngology, head and neck surgery is the diagnosis and treatment (operative and non-operative) of patients with disorders of the ears, nose, throat, and related structures of the head and neck. This includes cancer of the head and neck (excluding the eye and the brain), disorders of the salivary glands and thyroid gland, disorders of hearing, balance, swallowing, speech, snoring/sleep apnoea and aspects of facial plastic surgery. For more information on Otolaryngology Surgery as a specialty [click here](#)

The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) invites you to view interviews with experienced surgeons about the study, practice and highlights of [practising surgery](#)

Training in Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery is coordinated by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) Board of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery which is responsible for the selection, placement and monitoring of all Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Trainees in New Zealand.

For programme information [click here](#)

Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery Training

To help guide junior doctors' career development during the early pre-vocational years, the College has established JDocs, a competency framework (JDocs Framework) supported by a suite of learning and assessment resources.

JDocs is available to any doctor registered in Australia and New Zealand, from and including internship, where the level of engagement is determined by the junior doctor.

For further information visit [the competency-framework](#) and [RACS competencies](#)

When selecting doctors for Surgical Education and Training (SET) RACS focus is on their potential to achieve the 9 RACS competencies:

1. Professionalism
2. Scholar/Teacher
3. Health Advocacy
4. Management and Leadership
5. Collaboration
6. Communication
7. Medical Expertise
8. Judgement – Clinical Decision Making
9. Technical Expertise

Specialty Training

5 Years

- Surgical Education and Training (SET) 1 to 5
- Each SET is 12 months in duration

Entry Requirements

- [Generic Selection Requirements](#)
- [Specialty Specific Requirements](#)

The number of doctors selected for SET in Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery is not based on entry requirements alone but also on scoring high enough in the selection process to be offered one of the limited number of training positions.

You will need to complete placements in multiple DHBs whilst undertaking vocational training

SET in Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery is separate in New Zealand and Australia.

Registration in SET Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery is not transferable between New Zealand and Australia.

Registration is not training-site specific and lasts for the duration of the training programme, assuming satisfactory progression.

Specialty Training Programme Information

Medical College

[Royal Australasian College of Surgeons](#)

The College is the principal body for the training and education of surgeons in Australia and New Zealand. Accreditation is given by the Australian Medical Council, on behalf of the Medical Board of Australia, and the Medical Council of New Zealand to conduct training and education of surgeons in **Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery** in Australia and New Zealand.

Fellowship/Qualification

Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (FRACS) in Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery

Application and Selection Process

Examination Requirement

RACS Examinations include the

- Clinical Examination,
- Generic Surgical Sciences Examination,
- Specialty Specific Examination and
- Fellowship Examination.

Information regarding RACS examinations can be found [here](#)

Recognition of Prior Learning

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Resident Medical Officer (RMO) Information

Year	Number of applications	Number of applicants selected
2014	17	6
2013	12	6
2012	12	3
2011	8	4
2010	8	3
2009	16	6

RMO training registrar positions

Northern	Midland	Central	South Island	Total
8.2	2	2	5	17.2

*Figures from September 2014 RMO census

The need for this speciality in New Zealand

This section is being further developed. Once it is updated a revised version will be published.

Information on Otolaryngology Surgeons

NZ New Fellows (Some SET Trainees work for a year or more overseas before returning to NZ and applying for the award of FRACS).

Year	Number
2014	4
2013	3
2012	4
2011	0
2010	3
2009	3

Otolaryngology surgeons registered with the Medical Council

TBA

Average Age of SMOs*	Number of IMGs**
53	33%

*Source: Medical Council, 24 March 2014

**International Medical Graduate (IMG)

Number of Otolaryngology Surgeons by Region (TBA)

Northern		Midland		Central		South Island		Total	
FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

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