



Changes to the PITO Board

PITO held its annual general meeting recently. It is with regret that the PITO board accepted the resignation of Maree Jensen, Chair of the PITO board. Maree has been on the board since 2003 representing community pharmacy as a Pharmacy Guild representative. She has brought a wealth of knowledge to the running of the board, being both a pharmacy owner and a lecturer at the University of Auckland.

Maree will be greatly missed and we wish her well for her future.

Anthea Gregan, representative for the Pharmaceutical Society and one of the longer serving members of the board has been appointed to the role of chairperson.

Other members of the board include Annabel Young, Pharmacy Guild representative; Sanjoy Nand, Pharmaceutical Society representative; Owain George, Pharmacy Council representative; Nic Ellinger, Hospital Pharmacy Technician representative; and Shelley Bonkovitch, Community Pharmacy Technician representative.

Managing training and completion times

A very important aspect of being involved in any training is ensuring you manage your time effectively so that you complete all requirements in the necessary time frames.

These days, we are all subject to a whole range of other activities outside of work which impact on the time we have available. This includes time spent with families, sporting and leisure activities, social networking and a raft of other activities.

There are two specific aspects to training which further compound this. The due dates for your individual assessments and the overall time to complete your qualification. The training providers are required to set these times not only to manage their own processes but also to satisfy requirements from the government bodies that provide subsidies for much of the training. If trainees are taking longer than expected to complete their studies then this can have an impact on the training provider both financially and in their ability to support the trainee with further enrolments.

It is really important that as you work through your study that you keep in touch with your provider or tutor if there are issues preventing you from keeping to the recommended times. They are there to provide assistance but can also give advice and guidance about how best to approach things when difficulty arises. Keeping on track with individual assessments will help in achieving your qualification in the best time possible which is the outcome all providers are after.

