

Pacific Health Research Committee

(March 2025)

Terms of Reference

To provide advice to Council on matters of importance to Pacific health research for New Zealand¹, particularly on areas of priority for investment, and where there are gaps in knowledge, capacity and capability.

The Pacific Health Research Committee should:

- Present to Council annual strategic activities, and
- Present to Council, in June of each year, a Pacific health research priorities document, as guidance to both Council and researchers.

To make recommendations to Council on any Pacific health research-specific funding opportunities delegated to the Pacific Health Research Committee by Council.

- The Pacific Health Research Committee will appoint the Chair for, and have no more than two members on the Pacific Project and Pacific Career Development Award Assessing Committee. Membership of the assessing committee will be determined by the Chair of the Assessment Committee and the HRC.

To monitor the performance of funding contracts for opportunities delegated to the Pacific Health Research Committee by Council.

To support the HRC in activities relating to Pacific health research:

- The Pacific Health Research Committee will advise on, and participate as appropriate, in Fono, workshops and promotion of HRC funding round.
- The Pacific Health Research Committee will provide input into the development of organisational strategic documents, guidelines and Investment Signals, as they relate to Pacific health.
- The Pacific Health Research Committee will provide advice to the HRC, when needed, on assessing committee members and peer reviewers for the range of the HRC's funding opportunities.

Membership Composition

1. *The Pacific Health Research Committee shall consist of 8 members.*

¹ The HRC recognises the close relationship between Pacific peoples in New Zealand and the Pacific Island nations. While the mission of the HRC is to benefit New Zealand through the investment of public monies in health research, research to improve the health of Pacific people in New Zealand may involve peoples in the Pacific Island nations. Such research is considered in scope for the HRC, if the research is addressing goal(s) of the HRC's Investment Signals or a Request for Proposals

2. *At least two people representing the health-related interests of Pacific people in New Zealand and the countries and territories of the Pacific.*
3. *At least four people with a strong and demonstrated record in health research, inclusive of expertise in qualitative research.*
4. *Two ex-officio members: the Chief Executive of the HRC and a representative of the Ministry of Health.*

At any stage, as relevant to the work of the Pacific Health Research Committee, a person may be co-opted to the committee for a temporary period, e.g. Postgraduate research students.

Term of Office

Members are appointed on the same three + three-year basis as other committees.

Process for Appointment of Membership

The Chief Executive formally invites the proposed member recommended by the Committee and confirmed by the Council (Refer to HRC Appointment Policy for Statutory and Standing Committee Members).

Current Membership	Date of Appointment	End of Term	Expertise	Location
Vacant				
Vacant				
Vacant				
Dr Seini Taufa	12.2022	12.2025	Child health, maternal health, Pacific health, perinatal, sexual and reproductive health, trauma, violence	Auckland
Associate Professor Donald Wilson	02.2021	02.2024	Environmental Epidemiology, infectious diseases, health inequalities, occupational health, primary health care, public health	Suva, Fiji
Reappointment	02.2024	02.2027		
Vacant				
Dr 'Etuini Ma'u (Co-opted member)	09.2024	09.2025	Psychiatry Psychogeriatrics (geriatric psychiatry)	Hamilton
Dr Radilaite Cammock (Co-opted member)	09.2024	09.2025	Pacific people's health, sexual and reproductive health, youth	Auckland
Associate Professor Gade Waqa (Co-opted member)	09.2024	09.2025	Public health, Pacific health	Suva, Fiji
Ms Alice Chisnall-Kalouniviti (Ex officio member)			Ministry of Health	Taranaki
Professor Sunny Collings (Ex officio member)			HRC	Wellington

Secretary:

Ms Tolotea Lanumata

Quorum:
Meetings per annum

Four
Four

Reports to:
Established by:

Council
Council – November 1990 (superseding the South Pacific
Medical Research Committee)

Reviewed:
Disbanded:

September 1994, February 2012