Biomedical Research Committee

(November 2026)

Terms of Reference

Refer to HRC Act 1990 (Sections 13, 14 Principal function of the Biomedical Research Committee and Sections 17-19 General Functions of Research Committees) and HRC Policy Document *Description, Interpretation and Implementation of the Statutory Functions for Research Committees.*

Membership Composition

Section 20 of the HRC Act 1990 states:

Membership of research committees

1 Each research committee shall consist of seven (7) members.
2 At least five (5) of the seven (7) members of each research committee shall have research experience that is relevant to the kind of health research in respect of which the committee is established.
3 The members of each research committee –
   (a) Shall be appointed from time to time by the Council; and
   (b) May include both members of the Council and persons who are not members of the Council.
4 In appointing members of a research committee, the Council shall have regard to –
   (a) Their personal attributes; and
   (b) Their ability to contribute to the discharge of the functions of the research committee.
5 The chairperson of each research committee shall be a member of the Council from time to time appointed for the purpose by the Council.
6 Subject to subsection (7) of this section, every member of a research committee shall be appointed for a term of three (3) years but may from time to time be reappointed.
7 Upon the completion by any person of two (2) consecutive terms as a member of a research committee, that person shall cease to be eligible for reappointment as a member of that research committee until after the lapse of three (3) years during which that person did not hold office as a member of that research committee.

Council agreed in principle to co-option of members to the Research Committee for a period of twelve months (Refer to HRC Council minutes April 1993).

Term of Office

Refer to HRC Act 1990 (Section 20)

Process for Appointment of Committee Members
The Council taking into consideration the matters referred to in Part 1, Section 20(4) of the HRC Act 1990 and consulting with the Committee, appoints members. The Chief Executive formally invites the proposed member confirmed by Council.

Current Membership	Date Appointed	End of Term	Expertise	Location
Dr Colin McArthur Appointed as Council member Appointed as BRC Chair	08.2026 09/2026	08.2029 09.2029	Intensive Care	Auckland
Dr Nicole Edwards (Co-opted: two-year term)	02.2025	02.2027	Neuroscience: molecular, Māori Health	Auckland
Dr Joanna Hikaka	12.2024	12.2027	Pharmacy Health Services, Māori health	Auckland
Professor Andrew Hill	12.2023	12.2026	Surgery	Auckland, Te Whatu Ora - Counties Manukau
Professor Michelle Glass	02.2024	02.2027	Molecular Pharmacology	Dunedin
Professor Greg Jones (Co-opted: one year term) Reappointed as member Reappointed for second term)	12.2020 12.2021 12.2024	12.2021 12.2024 12.2027	Vascular Biology	Dunedin
Associate Professor Melanie McConnell (Co-opted: two-year term)	12.2024	12.2026	Cancer, Molecular Biology	Wellington
Professor Julian Paton (Co-opted: two-year term)	02.2025	02.2027	Physiology, Cardiac Control	Auckland

Secretary:	Dr Katie Palastanga (Portfolio Lead)
Quorum:	4
Meetings per annum:	3-4
Reports to:	Council
Established by:	HRC Act 1990
Reviewed:	
Disbanded:	