



COVERSHEET

Minister	Hon Matt Doocey	Portfolio	ACC
Title of Cabinet paper	Changes to ACC Regulations for Chinese Medicine, Paramedics and Audiometrists	Date to be published	19 September 2024

List of documents that have been proactively released		
Date	Title	Author
August 2024	Changes to ACC Regulations for Chinese Medicine, Paramedics and Audiometrists	Office of the Minister for ACC
6 August 2024	Changes to ACC Regulations for Chinese Medicine, Paramedics and Audiometrists EXP-24-MIN-0038 Minute	Cabinet Office
23 July 2024	Regulatory Impact Statement: Proposed changes to ACC regulations to deal with Chinese medicine, paramedics and audiometrists	MBIE

Information redacted

YES / NO [select one]

Any information redacted in this document is redacted in accordance with MBIE's policy on Proactive Release and is labelled with the reason for redaction. This may include information that would be redacted if this information was requested under Official Information Act 1982. Where this is the case, the reasons for withholding information are listed below. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.



Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review Committee

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

Changes to ACC Regulations for Chinese Medicine, Paramedics and Audiometrists

Portfolio **ACC**

On 6 August 2024, the Cabinet Expenditure and Regulatory Review Committee:

- 1 **noted** that the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) undertook public consultation on behalf of the Minister for ACC (the Minister) from 18 April to 16 May 2024 on the proposed changes to ACC regulations dealing with Chinese medicine, paramedics and audiometrists;
- 2 **noted** that the proposed treatment rates outlined in paragraphs 4.4 and 4.7 below were recommended to the Minister by ACC via MBIE on 6 March 2024;
- 3 **noted** that around 200 submissions were received in response to the consultation, with most submissions in favour of the proposals;
- 4 **agreed** to the following changes to the Accident Compensation (Definitions) Regulations 2019 (Definitions Regulations), Accident Compensation (Liability to Pay or Contribute to Cost of Treatment) Regulations 2003 and Accident Compensation (Apportioning Entitlements for Hearing Loss) Regulations 2010 (together, the Cost of Treatment Regulations):
 - 4.1 amend the definition of ‘acupuncturist’ in the Definitions Regulations to recognise the Chinese Medicine Council as the new regulatory body to ensure ACC funding continues;
 - 4.2 add Chinese medicine practitioners as registered health professionals in the Definitions Regulations so any injuries arising from their treatment is covered under the ACC treatment injury provisions;
 - 4.3 add paramedics as treatment providers in the Definitions Regulations to ensure ACC can fund treatment provided by them beyond that covered under existing ambulance service contracts;

- 4.4 add the following new paramedic treatment rates to the Cost of Treatment Regulations:

Item Description	Rate (per visit)
The claimant is 14 years old or over when the visit takes place and is not the holder of a community services card or the dependent child of a holder.	\$16.99
The claimant is under 14 years old when the visit takes place.	\$36.17
The claimant is 14 years old or over when the visit takes place and is the holder of a community services card.	\$31.27
The claimant is 14 years old or over but under 18 years old when the visit takes place and is the dependent child of a holder of a community services card.	\$37.18

- 4.5 add paramedics as registered health professionals in the Definitions Regulations to ensure that any injuries from their treatment continues to be covered under the ACC treatment injury provisions;
- 4.6 add audiometrists as treatment providers in the Definitions Regulations to enable ACC to fund treatment provided by them;
- 4.7 add new audiometrist treatment rates to the Cost of Treatment Regulations, which are the same as those applying to audiologists;
- 4.8 amend the definition of ‘audiologist’ in the Definitions Regulations to align with the revised New Zealand Audiological Society definition;
- 4.9 amend the definition of ‘nurse’ in the Definitions Regulations to make it consistent with the new scope of scope of practice for nurses;
- 5 **invited** the Minister for ACC to issue drafting instructions to the Parliamentary Counsel Office to give effect to the above decisions;
- 6 **authorised** the Minister for ACC to make decisions, consistent with the above decisions, on any issues which arise during the drafting process;
- 7 **noted** that the amended regulations are expected to come into force from 1 December 2024.

Sam Moffett
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon David Seymour (Chair)
Hon Nicola Willis
Hon Brooke van Velden
Hon Paul Goldsmith
Hon Louise Upston
Hon Mark Mitchell
Hon Matt Doocey
Hon Andrew Hoggard
Hon Simon Watts
Hon Mark Patterson
Hon Andrew Bayly
Hon Chris Penk

Officials present from:

Officials Committee for EXP
Office of the Minister of Science, Innovation and Technology