



Hello, we would like to welcome you to our little piece of the world of Medicine.

Whakatane Hospital is in a rather unique situation that allows doctors to practice in an environment which is not the ultimate in high tech or city practice and neither is it at the other extreme in remote rural solo endeavour. What we have here is a dedicated staff and a well-equipped provincial hospital that serves a needy population in a beautiful and geographically diverse setting. This gives you an opportunity to be part of our healthcare team but also makes access to both local outdoor activities and New Zealand wide tourism a reality during your time off.

WHERE WE ARE

Whakatane is a town of around 34,000 people situated in the Eastern Bay of Plenty. We have a great climate - long warm summer with temperatures often reaching the low 30's with lots of sunshine and relatively mild winters with the temperatures seldom going below zero. There is immediate access to the ocean and many nearby lakes and large rivers. On your doorstep are many outdoor activities including

- Swimming, Diving - Scuba and snorkeling
- Walking, tramping
- Hunting
- Sailing and boating (sea, lake and river)
- Fishing (both fresh water and sea as well as deep sea fishing)
- Particular outdoor pursuits such as jet boating, bungee jumping and skiing are available either nearby or within three hours drive.



Whakatane itself is the residential and business centre for a large farming community with forestry and adventure tourism as other important activities. The town has a broad range of facilities that include two High Schools, an Intermediate School, four Primary Schools, and several pre-primary schools. There is easy access to most common sports including soccer, rugby, tennis, squash, cycling, cricket, netball, athletics and many more. Just about anything one may wish to buy for house, home and general family living is available in the town. There is a cinema complex with five screens and a cinema café. Generally movies are available at the same time as released in the cities. Reasonably priced restaurants and pubs are easily accessible for visitors and locals alike. Most churches and denominations are represented.

Access to the rest of New Zealand from this area is straightforward. Travelling by road the nearby cities of Tauranga and Rotorua are an hour away. Remember that in New Zealand driving takes a little longer than one may expect in many other countries as the roads are generally only one lane in each direction, as opposed to dual carriageways. However, the beautiful views and scenery make it easier to forget the slightly longer travel times. An

Intercity bus service passes through Whakatane but generally those who wish to travel longer distances would choose to fly. There are daily flights to Auckland (5 flights each way during the week and 2-3 each way on Saturdays and Sundays). Connecting flights from Auckland to the rest of New Zealand are easily available. Flight time to Auckland is 50 minutes. Driving to Auckland would take 3 ½ hours. New Zealand does have a rail service, though tourists rather than commuters use it.

WHAKATANE HOSPITAL

BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD (BOPDHB)

Whakatane Hospital is a government-funded organisation that provides the full range of health care and disability support services to the people of the Eastern Bay of Plenty. There are approx 120 beds. This region extends from Matata in the West to East Cape in the East and has a triangular configuration ending around Kawerau in the South West. The population is around 50,000 and ranges from "city" type configuration of Whakatane through to the smaller towns of Edgecumbe, Kawerau and Opotiki and the rather rural and remote areas of East Cape. Approximately 45% of the population is of Maori origin.

Primary care services are to a large extent provided by General Practitioners in the town. Whakatane Hospital provides some primary care services through its Emergency Department but its main role is to provide hospital based secondary care services.

- **Medicine:** consists of four teams: Four Physicians provide a full range of in and outpatient services and staff the Department of Medicine. The Medical physicians have a Medical Officer and a House Officer each – providing us with four medical teams.
- **Surgery:** General Surgeons, of whom there are three, provide a broad range of general surgical services, which includes Day Stay surgery and laparoscopic surgery. There are two Surgical Medical Officers and two House Officers attached to the surgical teams
- **Orthopaedics:** We have three Orthopaedic Surgeons and one Orthopaedic Medical Officer and a House Officer attached to the Orthopaedic teams.
- There is a range of Orthopaedic procedures performed, ranging from general trauma through to total hip and knee replacements.
- **Paediatrics:** Three Specialist Paediatricians and a Paediatric Unit provide a full Paediatric service. A Paediatric House Officer assists the Paediatricians.
- **O&G:** Midwives provide primary care obstetrics in the community but the hospital provides specialist Obstetric and Gynaecological services with three full time O&G Specialists. A House Officer works within the team.
- **Mental Health Services:** include an inpatient unit and a large community based service led by two full time Psychiatrists.
- **Laboratory services** 24-hour services are available with weekly visits by a Pathologist.
- **Radiology Services** include the usual plain films and barium studies as well as ultrasound and CT on site.

Other back-up services include Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and a full Rehabilitation team as well District Nursing Services and a full range of community based services.

There are two full theatres and one minor procedure and endoscopy theatre. An ICU and CCU provide high-level care on site.



The Bay of Plenty District Health Board (BOPDHB) has two hospitals under its umbrella, Tauranga (one hour North of Whakatane) and Whakatane Hospital. The CEO of BOPDHB is Phil Cammish.

Whakatane Hospital also boasts a commitment to rural health care and to providing services appropriate for our Maori patients. In this regard we have services at Opotiki, a nearby town of around 8000 people and a further outreach service at Te Kaha on the East Coast. Amohaere Tangitu is the Manager of Maori Health Services, together with her team she is available at all times to help in the understanding of the provision of health services appropriate to our Maori community. Diane Nielson is our full time Chaplain and there is an onsite chapel.

YOUR JOB AS A HOUSE OFFICER/RESIDENT MEDICAL OFFICER/SHO

Our Hospital and community provide a unique set of circumstances for developing your medical practice. The Hospital as described above has a large number of services, which are specialist delivered. Several of the Units employ a MOSS (non-training Registrar) and support of junior staff is by both these middle grade doctors and by the Consultants. During your stay with us you will rotate through the various units and will have time during a year contract to be involved in three or four if you so chose. All doctors employed by Whakatane Hospital will be expected to provide some after hours cover and this will, at times, include duties in the Emergency Department either during or after hours. This together with the overall structure of the hospital does provide the opportunity to see a wide range of medical conditions and to be able to experience a wide range of hands on involvement in the management of patients under the watchful eye of Consultant staff. Although this may seem a little threatening at first we believe that our systems are such that you will rapidly be able to slot in and perform well.

Runs available: there are 12 positions in total:

- 4 x Medical
- 2 x General Surgical
- 1 x O&G
- 1x Orthopaedic
- 1 x Paediatric
- 1 x Psychiatry
- 2 x relief

Other than relief, these runs are Medical Council of NZ - A and B category runs. Salary scale is as per RDA contract at a C category.

There is an extensive teaching programme run by the Consultants that amounts to a minimum of 7 hours per week. Two of these hours are protected time. The Medical Administrator will hold the pagers.

Monday: provides you with Orthopaedic teaching for H/Os and an X-Ray conference for the Medical team.

Tuesday: is Journal Club, followed by Emergency Dept teaching for H/Os.

Wednesday: is the H/O teaching hour when the House Officers themselves pick the teaching topics. The Medical Administrator holds the pagers.

Thursday: Clinical teaching for all SMOs and RMOs with lunch provided

Friday: we have case presentations.

In the Emergency Department at Whakatane Hospital you could face anything from otitis media through sports injuries and chest pain to general orthopaedics and although it will be useful to have experience in these areas, the combination of teaching programme, helpful Consultant staff and well trained Emergency Department staff will allow you to safely practice within this environment.

Day to day duties will be by way of a three month attachment to a particular Unit i.e. Medicine, Surgery etc. Duties will include ward rounds, and involvement in the activities of the Specialists in that Unit.

The roster provides for after hours cover that generally works out to being on duty one weekend in three and on night duty one in nine. During night duty the House Officer is the only doctor resident in the hospital with the support of nursing staff and Registrars and Consultants on call. First year House officers at this stage don't do nights for the first year. We are currently working towards a 24/7 Emergency Dept and when this is functioning, first year House Officers will then do nights after six months.

Entitlements include meals when on duty, an on call allowance and a telephone allowance. This is standard within the organisation. A few single rooms are available on site for a limited timeframe but most choose to live in rental accommodation in the area. We will provide two weeks free accommodation when you first move into our district.

SO.....

If you are looking to work in New Zealand so that you can experience "down under" and if you are looking to work in a hospital where you can get exposure to anything ranging from General Medicine to Orthopaedics, Paediatrics to Psychiatry. If you are interested in outdoor activities in particular and if you are interested in small town life or if you simply just want to work and have fun - we think this is the place for you. It has become well known that smaller hospitals provide a more hands on approach than larger hospitals. If you want to know more about New Zealand, Immigration requirements, registration requirements, Whakatane Hospital or anything else please do not hesitate to contact us in one of the following ways:

Phone: +64 7 306 0749
Joy Sunich – Medical Staffing Unit

Fax: 64 7 306 0973

Email: joy.sunich@bopdhb.govt.nz

Website: <http://www.bopdhb.govt.nz/>

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO.....

If you do want to apply for a job we will need:

1. A formal application form that we can post/email to you
2. Health Questionnaire forms that we will email to you.
3. A Curriculum Vitae
4. Three professional references that can be contacted by fax, email or telephone.
5. We will also need to know your registration status with the Medical Council of NZ.

If you are uncertain of this we would be able to give you an idea once we have your CV but failing this the Medical Council can be contacted at the following address:

The Registrar,
Medical Council of New Zealand
P O Box 11 649,
Wellington
NEW ZEALAND

Website: <http://www.mcnz.org.nz/>
Tel: +64 4 384 7635
Fax: +64 4 385 8902

For people from overseas who are not New Zealand or Australian citizens or residents immigration formalities will also be necessary but providing that these begin in good time (usually three months before you are due to start) these can usually be successfully completed.

