



4 December 2020

Mike Smith
Program Leader Anaesthetic Technology
Clinical Services
Auckland University of Technology
Email: Michael.smith@aut.ac.nz

Dear Michael

Re: Proposed AUT Degree – NZSA Feedback

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this degree pathway for the Bachelor of Health Science in Perioperative Practice.

Overall, we think it is a strong degree with opportunity to create awareness of the pathway (and address workforce shortage issues) to students enrolled in the Bachelor of Health Science common semester.

We would like to seek clarity around the hours achieved in clinical practice. As you are aware, under PS08 there are clear requirements for trainees to spend at least twelve months full-time equivalent in clinical experience (52 weeks at 40 hours per week, including sick and annual leave).

A trained assistant to the anaesthetist must have completed a training course, which at a minimum covers the knowledge, skills, and competencies outlined in this document. The duration of the course will be determined by the course provider taking into account recognition of prior learning, and achievement of the core competencies listed below. Courses should include at least twelve months full-time equivalent clinical experience, which may continue during any part-time components of the course.

On review of the proposed Bachelor of Health Sciences in Perioperative Practice- Degree Pathway that you provided it appears only the blue perioperative practice boxes contain a clinical practice element. If these were all clinical practice it would only result in 1500 hours of clinical practice somewhat less than that required by the ANZCA professional standard.

We also inquire as to the steps involved to adhere to the following PS08 requirement:

Input from anaesthetists in curriculum development, preparation and delivery of relevant lectures, practical supervision and assessments.



Finally, we also inquire as to the steps taken for this degree programme to be suitable for regional trainees – with options for online training and regional hospital placements. This was discussed at the meeting with MSC and AUT on Wednesday 11 December 2019.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheila", is positioned below the text "Kind regards".

Dr Sheila Hart
NZSA President