

## Thinking of Obstetrics and Gynaecology?

Obstetricians provide medical care before, during and after childbirth. Gynaecologists diagnose, treat and aid in the prevention of disorders of the female reproductive system. Obstetrics and gynaecology are specialist branches of medicine and although they are each concerned with separate aspects of the health care of women, they are usually merged into the one service.

## Career Prospects in Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Obstetricians and gynaecologists perform the following tasks:

- Carry out gynaecological examinations, diagnosis and operations on women referred to them by general practitioners, discuss contraceptive methods with their patients and prescribe suitable contraception;
- Examine pregnant women throughout their pregnancies to ensure that they are progressing well and that good health is maintained, and advise and treat pregnant women for special health conditions brought about by their pregnancy;
- Deliver babies through normal procedures or by caesarean section;
- Examine mothers and babies after childbirth to ensure there are no complications or, if there are, refer them to other specialists, such as to paediatricians (children's doctors); and
- Treat infertility by chemical or operative measures.

Approximately 10 percent of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) Fellows are subspecialists. These Fellows have gained certification in one of the five areas offered by the college:

- Gynaecological Oncology
- Obstetrical and Gynaecological Ultrasound
- Maternal-Fetal Medicine
- Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility
- Urogynaecology

More on subspecialties is available on [RANZCOG WEBSITE - Specialist Training](#)

## Obstetrics and Gynaecology Training

[RANZCOG WEBSITE - Specialist Training](#) is a competitive entry 6 years postgraduate hospital-based training programme comprising of 4 years of core and 2 years of advanced training.

The **4 years' Core Training** includes the following:

- Rotation through a minimum of three different hospitals, with at least 12 months in a tertiary hospital and 6 months in a rural hospital
- Logged clinical work in obstetrics and gynaecology resulting in attainment of prescribed competency levels in specified procedures
- Experience in gynaecological oncology sufficient to gain a working knowledge of the anatomy of the pelvic sidewall, particularly in regard to the ureter and major blood vessels

- Utilising the resources of Trainee Connect via online [RANZCOG e-learning platform](#), and attending workshops and training courses.

**Advanced Training** follows core training. It comprises the final **two years** of the FRANZCOG Training Programme. The content of Advanced Training is not prescribed by the College. Trainees entering Advanced Training are required to submit a plan for the two-year program which is designed to meet their own educational needs.

The 2 years Advanced Training can therefore be tailored to meet the needs and interest of the trainee and may focus on:

- Extending expertise in gynaecological surgery
- Developing expertise in provincial practice
- Developing research expertise and academic medicine
- Developing expertise in an area of special interest
- Developing expertise in practice in developing countries
- Subspecialty training (One or both Advanced Training years can be approved for this)

## **Specialty Training Programme Information**

### **Medical College**

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) [RANZCOG WEBSITE - Home](#)

### **Fellowship/Qualification**

Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (FRANZCOG)

### **Examination requirements**

Formal three-monthly and six-monthly assessments of progress by a Training Supervisor, Surgical Procedures Competency Assessment, Research Project, MRANZCOG Written Examination and a MRANZCOG Oral [RANZCOG - Examinations](#)

### **Recognition of Prior Learning**

Trainees who have been selected for the FRANZCOG Training Program and have obtained an accredited first year training position may be eligible to apply to have some previous experience or training to be recognised toward the specialist training program – subject to the approval.

For further information [RANZCOG WEBSITE - Recognition of Prior Learning \(RPL\)](#)

### **Transferability of registration to other countries/across training sites**

Trainees must obtain prospective approval to transfer from one training region to another [RANZCOG WEBSITE - Leave & Transfers](#)

**It is highly likely that you need to complete placements in multiple DHBs whilst completing vocational training**

### **Entry requirement**

#### **Eligibility criteria for application:**

- Medical degree with full registration in either Australia or New Zealand at the time of applying.
- Citizenship or permanent resident status of Australia or New Zealand at the time of application.

Completion of a minimum of two years postgraduate pre-vocational experience.  
Some clinical experience in obstetrics and gynecology is desirable.

### Application process

1. Submit an application when applications are open
2. Both the application CV and Referee report scores will be used to generate a short list to be interviewed.
3. Selection for the training programme will be based on demonstrable evidence of the selection criteria
4. Offers will be made to the highest ranking applicants. It is the applicant's responsibility to find employment in an accredited training hospital.

### Selection criteria

Outlined below are the essential selection criteria. There are also desirable criteria which are outlined on the RANZCOG website

- Sufficient academic achievement to meet the requirements of the training programme
- Clinical experience which demonstrates the ability to exercise sound clinical judgement
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- A basic knowledge of the FRANZCOG training programme

A willingness to rotate to different hospitals, including a mandatory rural attachment.

Further information can be found on the [RANZCOG WEBSITE - Home](#)

## Resident Medical Officer (RMO) Information

### Demand for vocational Training Posts

Year	Number of applications for training year	Number of applicants for training year selected
2016	29	17
2015	18	11
2014	19	11
2013	28	19
2012	28	19

### RMO training registrar positions contracted

Northern	Midland	Central	South Island	Total
42.5	8	20.7	22.5	93.7

(September 2016 RMO census)

## Regions

### **Northern:**

Northland, Waitemata, Auckland, Counties Manukau DHBs

### **Midland:**

Lakes, Tairāwhiti, Bay of Plenty, Waikato, Taranaki DHBs

### **Central:**

Hawke's Bay, Wanganui, MidCentral, Wairarapa, Capital and Coast, Hutt Valley DHBs

### **South Island:**

Nelson Marlborough, Canterbury, South Canterbury, Southern, West Coast DHBs

## Senior Medical Officer (SMO) Information

Year	Number of NZ New Fellows
2016	7
2015	14

Average Age of SMOs	Number registered with the Medical Council	% of international medical graduates in the workforce
52	293	58

### **Number by Region** (September 2016 SMO census)

Northern		Midland		Central		South Island		Total	
FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount	FTE	Headcount
64.2	85	35.4	40	31.6	38	35.6	57	166.9	220