

## NZATS Registration Exam Report 08

### The current NZATS examiners are :

Andrew Ditchburn	Technician
Andrew Warmington	Anaesthetist
Brenda Knowles	Technician
Carolyn Fowler	Anaesthetist
Hamzi Mahagna	Technician
Heather Godfrey	Technician
James Lai	Anaesthetist
Catharine Hepworth	Technician
Kaylene Henderson	Technician
Krish Nayar	Anaesthetist
Lyll Trethowen	Technician
Malcolm Stuart	Anaesthetist
Mark Chapman	Anaesthetist
Nicola Smith-Guerin	Technician
Phil Eames	Anaesthetist
Stephanie Lewis	Technician
Stuart Walker	Anaesthetist
Ted Hughes	Anaesthetist

I took over at the last AGM as the Examination Co-ordinator and it has been an action packed year, not only did I have the shoes of Patricia O'Brien to fill, but the new format of OSCE stations to execute.

I have been blessed to have on the examining team Kaylene Henderson who has kept me sane and assisted me throughout the process of writing, and developing ideas for these stations.

The examiners also have been a vital part of this new format and attended a workshop in August, Christchurch Hospital kindly made available a meeting room for us. The agenda was huge, all of the documentation was critiqued and quality adjustments made: the main points of discussion were:

**Examination Etiquette...** discussion around the document "guidelines for examiners" this has become the bible for examiners so we are all on the same page.

**Documentation** ....as mentioned before corrections, alterations and agreements made to the documents.

**Appeal Process** ...this has been updated in the training regulations and allows students to identify any issues to the exam facilitator on the day of exams and then needs to be put in writing received by the exam secretary within 7 days of the event. Feedback forms for students will also be made available for quality improvement purposes.

**Machine Check...** the machine was discussed at length and a proposal now sits with the board, “the exam committee wish the machine check portion of the exam to become 5 OSCE stations with the focus purely on the machine: testing, checking or describing the function of .

This will go away from the traditional machine check but we feel that it will test more understanding of the machine than the current memory test.

The registration exam has been held twice this year with the new OSCE stations and below is a table of results.

**FEB/MAR 08** :

This was the first time for OSCE stations and the exam committee were pleased that they appeared to go well, with the examiners expressing that it is more robust way to test overall practical knowledge. These stations were designed to name, test or prepare equipment that is usually handled by technicians.

**PART 1**

22 Candidates 21 receiving 75%

**PART 2**

21 Candidates 11 receiving 75%

**SEPT/ OCT 08**

**PART 1**

3 Candidates 3 receiving 75%

**PART 2**

13 candidates 10 re sits from previous Exams, all 13 successfully passed

So there has been lots of exciting work done this year, many improvements made and many people involved.

I want to thank you all for giving up your own time to ensure the on going development and strengthening of our profession.

Nicola Smith -Guerin  
NZATS Exam Co-ordinator.

