

Objectives:

To explore the education of newborn hearing screeners in New Zealand and identify the strengths and challenges of the current model

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Newborn Hearing Screeners are important!





**Te Tatau o te Whare Kahu
Midwifery Council**



**Nursing and
Midwifery Board
Ahpra**



**NEW ZEALAND
Audiological
Society**



NASRHP



**Allied Health
Professions
Australia**

Newborn hearing screeners are a unique health workforce

They complete a short training course, but they do many of the things that other registered professionals do, such as:

- Introduce the program
 - Gain informed consent
 - Answer questions
 - Perform the procedure
 - Provide results
 - Deal with responses from women and families and impact experiences
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- Are they adequately prepared and educated for this role?

Current Education Framework in New Zealand



NZ Certificate in Health and Wellbeing (Level 3)

Newborn Hearing Screening Strand

61 credits
Expected duration 10 months

Ideal for:

- Newborn Hearing Screeners employed by Te Whatu Ora and the Ministry of Health supporting the delivery of the National Hearing Screening Programme

- Review of their training and protocols
- Recognising and responding to vulnerability and abuse.
- Demonstrating professional and ethical behaviour.
- Knowledge of culturally safe principles for Māori, Pasifika or other cultures.
- Describing community values and attitudes and their impact on people with disabilities
- Communication

Cultural Safety

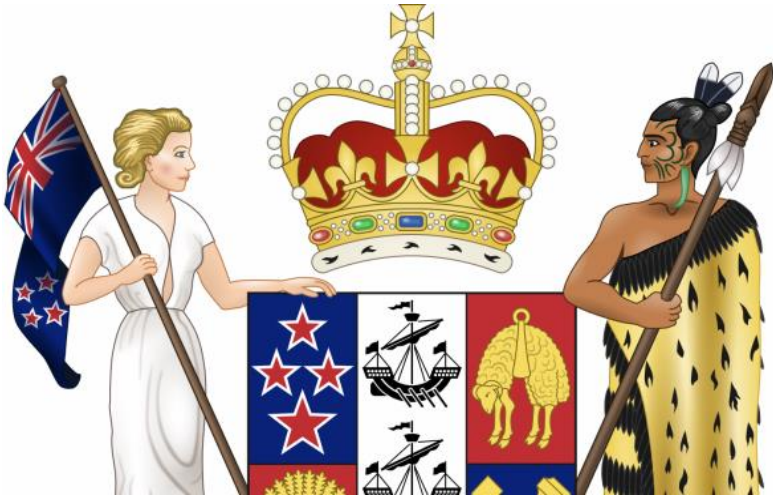


“Culturally safe practise is the ongoing critical reflection of health practitioner knowledge, skills, attitudes, practising behaviours and power differentials in delivering safe, accessible and responsive healthcare free from racism”

(National Scheme’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health and Cultural Safety Strategy 2020-2025)

Ti Tiriti o Waitangi

Knowledge of culturally safe principles for Māori, Pasifika or other cultures.



- Understanding the principles and articles of the Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- What are the impacts of colonisation
- What are Māori customs
- How do screeners respect these
- How can inequities be addressed
- Working with Pasifika or other cultures

Exposure to Family Violence



- 1 child dies every 5 wks in NZ from abuse (NZ Police report)
- 1 woman dies every 11 days in Australia (AIHW)

Strengths of the Current Education for Newborn Hearing Screeners



- Short and Accessible Training
- Practical Hands-On Learning
- Clear Role of Responsibilities
- **Awareness of Ethical and Professional Behaviour**
- **Cultural Safety Components and the impact of Colonisation**
- **Importance of Equity in Healthcare**

There are still challenges to address



“Do we need to rethink the education of newborn hearing screeners to ensure they provide equitable, high-quality care and screening in diverse healthcare settings?”

