



Welcome to Team IANZ - Delia Dephoff

This month we've had a new staff member join Team IANZ – Delia Dephoff – joining the Medical Imaging Team. We recently sat down with Delia to find out a little more about her and her background.

Tell us a little bit about your background?

Born in Christchurch, I grew up in Rotorua and trained at Rotorua Hospital qualifying with a Diploma of Diagnostic Radiography long before degrees, post graduate education, computers and the internet. My early years were spent doing general radiography in hospitals in NZ and in private practice in Australia. I have been fortunate to see radiography transform into what it is today and to witness the challenges of that progression. Keeping up with the times I trained in CT and MRI working in the private sector and going on to complete my Master's degree. I have been an active member in the profession including being involved with CPD assessment, conferences and education.

In need of a change, in 2019 I travelled to the UK to work as a locum radiographer. My UK experience included doing MRI for the NHS and private providers using old MR scanners well past their use by date to high end research scanners, MR scanners in mobile vans and also CT in busy NHS departments including imaging Covid patients.

How do you think your working style has changed in the last 2 years due to Covid?

I am one of the fortunate ones who decided to change my lifestyle before Covid came on the scene however as for my work style after having to work from behind a mask, I am probably more empathetic, caring and supportive of those around me as we all experienced the anxieties of being plunged into the unknown world of the pandemic.

Having been on the 'other side' of the assessment process, what's one piece of advice you can give or clients for minimising stress during the assessment?

Maintain standards, quality control and records as part of everyday practice so you don't have to catch up and fill in the gaps when assessment time rolls around again.

What is a common misconception you believe people hold around accreditation?

That assessments are there to find faults. It's there to find what is being done right and what can be done to improve outcomes for all stakeholders.

And, finally, what is one essential office item you can't live without?

Ask me again in six months. I haven't had an office before so haven't yet discovered that one essential item I can't live without.

Thanks Delia! We're excited to have you as part of the team and can't wait to take you around to our amazing clients.



Adaptability in the face of change

During the 2020 and 2021 lockdowns, IANZ staff were operating from their home office only, with time spent in the IANZ offices only when required. Only assessments deemed essential and requiring the physical presence of an assessor were carried out onsite during the lockdowns at Level 4 or Level 3. Instead, desktop assessments, remote assessments and hybrid assessments became our default methods of working.

Don Arnold, Programme Specialist for the Chemical and Biological Programme at IANZ, discusses the varying assessment methods used by IANZ as a direct result of Covid-19 and how they are implemented.

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IANZ: Our History - Mutual Recognition Agreements

IANZ accreditation is recognised around the world, giving New Zealand companies a competitive advantage and access to new market opportunities. When our overseas trading partners see that a product has a report or certificate with the IANZ symbol, they can have confidence that it is world class. IANZ accreditation, put simply, helps protect New Zealand’s global reputation as a responsible producer of quality products.

When taking a trip down IANZ memory lane, the recognition our accreditation standards hold internationally can be reviewed through our Mutual Recognition

Agreement (MRA) with international accreditation bodies. The first MRA for IANZ (TeLaRC) was signed 29 May 1981 with the National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia (NATA), giving effect to decisions by the respective Councils of the two organisations to grant recognition to each other. In essence, it allowed both parties to recognise that the accreditation of a testing laboratory by the other organisation was equivalent to an accreditation by its own organisation, inclusive of endorsed test reports. Most importantly, perhaps, was its promotion of the idea of collaboration in the development and adoption of laboratory accreditation principles internationally and in the development of international standards relating to laboratory accreditation.

Today, the Asia-Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC) acts to harmonise accreditation practices across all of its 53 members across the Asia Pacific region. The MRA across these countries facilitates the acceptance of conformity assessment results (e.g test reports, test certificates, inspection reports, and certification) across the region and with other regions around the world. It is through this mutual recognition and acceptance of conformity assessment results that there is a reduction in the need to undertake duplicate testing, inspection or certification across economies, thereby saving time and money, increasing economic efficiencies and facilitating international trade.

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