



University  
of Otago

ŌTĀKOU WHAKAIHU WAKA

# 2026 CANDIDATE INFORMATION PACK

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer (Pūkenga/Pūkenga Matua) in Primary Health Care

Department of Primary Health Care

Faculty of Medicine, Wellington | Te Kaupeka Whaiora, Pōneke

Division of Health Sciences | Te Tautari Nui



*E kā mana, e kā reo, e kā mauka whakahī, e kā awaawa,  
e kā pātaka o kā taoka tuku iho, tēnā koutou.*

*Nāia te reo rāhiri o Tahu Potiki e karaka atu ana ki a  
koutou katoa.*

*To all authorities, to all languages, to all mountains  
that stand with pride, to all rivers, and the guardians  
of treasures everlasting, welcome.*

*This is the admirable and proud voice of Tahu Potiki  
that welcomes you all.*

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## Welcome from the Vice-Chancellor Tēnā koe

Thank you for your interest in this position at the University of Otago.



I am privileged to be the Vice-Chancellor of this outstanding University. We are committed to working closely with iwi and Māori organisations and mātauraka Māori has become an integral part of teaching and research across the institution. Our relationship with Ngāi Tahu as mana whenua within their takiwā of Te Waipounamu and, through this, as the University's principal Treaty partner is especially important.

Our cultural location in the southern Pacific has also become an important component of our institutional identity and we have developed deep and strong links to Pacific communities, both within New Zealand and across the wider Pacific region. The University is strongly committed to broad ongoing engagement with Pacific communities. Our Pacific Strategic Framework formalises this commitment and articulates the University's goals to improve academic and development outcomes for Pacific students and staff.

Founded in 1869 by Scottish settlers with a commitment to the value of education for people of diverse backgrounds, the University of Otago has developed into an institution distinguished by its excellent teaching and research. The University has combined the traditions of this proud history with modern scholarship, and earned an international reputation for teaching and research excellence.

We rank as one of New Zealand's top two universities globally and have been awarded five stars plus – the highest rating possible – from the QS Stars international quality evaluation system in recognition not only for our exceptional teaching and research, but also for innovation, inclusiveness, internationalisation, the high standard of our facilities and the employability of our graduates.

The University of Otago has become an enduring educational, cultural and economic force in both the city of Dunedin and in New Zealand as a whole. We take seriously our role as critic and conscience of society, and we attract students from throughout New Zealand and around the world, providing them with a world-class education and encouraging them to be the best they can be.

At Otago, you have the opportunity to be part of an outstanding academic community, offering both challenges and opportunities. This will be an exciting and rewarding role; I welcome your application.

**Hon Grant Robertson**  
Vice-Chancellor

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## About the role

### Mō te tūnga

Become an integral part of a team of academic primary health care professionals, including playing an active role in:

- Undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, as determined by the Head of Department.
- Review of existing and development of new curricula, as appropriate.
- Undertaking research in the field of primary health care.
- Providing service to the University

### Duties and Responsibilities

- You will be expected to teach medical students in Years 4-6 of their MBChB degree at the University of Otago .
- You may take a teaching leadership role as course convenor or co-convenor
- You will also contribute to other departmental teaching programmes, depending on your particular expertise.
- You will be encouraged to supervise doctoral students if appropriately qualified.
- Teaching will comprise about 40% of your time. The rest of your time will be spent on research and service.
- Your research track record and capacity to attract external research funding and research students will be considered in the application process.
- You will be responsible to the Head of Department, Professor Lynn McBain and will undertake duties, as set out below.

### Expected Outcomes

Research:

- By the end of the first year after taking up this appointment, you will have applied for at least one research grant to support your research programme.
- Over the next five years, you will be expected to submit at least four papers to peer-reviewed journals of which you will be first or second author of at least two, or you will present the results of three research papers at major national and international meetings (this could include papers supervised by you).

Academic Teaching:

- You will ensure that teaching duties are fulfilled effectively and in a timely manner and receive at least satisfactory evaluation in the University teaching evaluation process.
- You will ensure that the relevant student assessments are conducted efficiently and reported promptly.

Service:

- You will be an active member of the Department of Primary Health Care.
- You will contribute, to service representing the Department at a campus, faculty, or university level.

### Person Specifications

The successful candidate ideally will be a registered health professional with a clinical background relevant to Primary Health Care. Applications from those with other relevant qualifications will be considered.

In addition, they will ideally also have:

- Relevant postgraduate research degree in Health sciences or a related discipline.
- Experience in teaching and course administration at tertiary level.
- Active independent research portfolio as evidenced by quality publications.
- Ability to provide service to the University and community.
- A strong commitment to developing collaborative working relationships with colleagues.
- Knowledge of Te Tiriti O Waitangi, and commitment to practice and teach in a manner consistent with the principles of Te Tiriti.

### Health and Safety

- Ensure that health and safety practices are observed in all workplace activities.
- Ensure that exemplary health and safety practice is taught to students in relation to the discipline.
- Report all accidents, incidents and near-misses in accordance with policy.
- Take responsibility for ensuring that relevant health and safety training has been completed.
- Identify and report all hazards.
- Assist the Department Health and Safety Officer when requested.

### Other Duties

Carry out any other duties, requested by the Head of Department/Dean or designated supervisor that reasonably fall within the broad parameters of the position or as an employee of the University.

For a full description of the expectations for a Lecturer or Senior Lecturer refer to the Academic Titles Guidelines:

<https://www.otago.ac.nz/humanresources/training/academic-staff/academic-titles/index.html>

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## Equal Employment Opportunities

The Division of Health Sciences is strongly committed to diversity in staffing, and we encourage applications from women and other under-represented groups who are suitably qualified. Parental leave without pay of up to 52 weeks including paid parental leave of up to twelve weeks' salary may be granted.

## Māori partnerships and the Māori Strategic Framework

While the University has a special partnership with Ngāi Tahu, as mana whenua within its takiwā (tribal area) of Te Wai Pounamu, it also has Treaty-based partnerships with a number of other iwi: Ngāti Whātua, Ngāti Porou Hauora (Ngāti Porou), Ngāti Toa, Te Atiawa and Tipu Ora Charitable Trust (Te Arawa).

The University's commitment to iwi aspirations and Māori development is articulated in its Māori Strategic Framework, which is a platform for the collective commitment to excellence in educational outcomes for all who come to Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka.

## Pacific Strategic Framework

The University is strongly committed to Pacific student achievement and meeting the needs of Pacific Peoples. Its Pacific Strategic Framework signals its intentions to support Pacific students to succeed in their tertiary education journey. There are dedicated staff members, both within the academic divisions and the service divisions, who are devoted to supporting Pacific students through university study.



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## Department of Primary Health Care

The Department of Primary Health Care, Faculty of Medicine, Wellington provides outstanding undergraduate medical education and is at the forefront of interprofessional education at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. We are proud of our interdisciplinary research activity, which informs practitioners, consumers, patients, and policy makers across many aspects of health and primary care. We are also committed to working closely with iwi and Māori organisations, with mātauranga Māori now an integral part of teaching and research across the institution.

Our undergraduate medical curriculum provides community-based learning programmes for students in Years 4–6 of the MBChB degree. Our interprofessional postgraduate courses for health professionals foster research-informed excellence and innovation in the health sector. We also offer Certificates, Diplomas, Masters, and Doctorate programmes via distance learning.

We undertake a wide range of research activities relevant to primary health care, with a strong focus on improving health and wellbeing, supporting health professionals in practice, and building research capacity within the sector. Our work draws on strengths in both qualitative and quantitative methodologies, with particular expertise in the analysis of health care consultations and the ongoing development of a sustainable database to support this research. We also value collaboration with other researchers and provide supervision and support for Masters and PhD students, with a strong emphasis on fostering emerging researchers.



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## Faculty of Medicine, Wellington Te Kaupeka Whaiora, Pōneke

The University of Otago's capital city campus offers a wide range of postgraduate qualifications in health sciences, as well as excellent undergraduate study opportunities in radiation therapy and medicine, and final year physiotherapy, dietetics and pharmacy.

### Faculty of Medicine - Wellington

We are proud to be Wellington's medical school, and of the role we play in making a difference to the health of New Zealanders. A unique part of the Faculty of Medicine - Wellington experience is our location on a tertiary hospital campus and our strong relationships with health service providers including Health New Zealand – Capital, Coast, and Hutt Valley Health, Mid Central Hawke's Bay, Tairāwhiti, Wairarapa. Our students are based at a variety of hospitals and GP practices throughout the lower North Island, where they are welcomed as students and as graduates when the time comes to recruit outstanding New Zealand-trained doctors and other health professionals. Our graduates are sought after both nationally and internationally.

### Opportunities for study

We offer PhD and masters' students the opportunity to be part of our team of internationally recognised researchers and clinicians. Our collaborative research approach, particularly with the hospitals, is a further drawcard, and we are at the forefront of disseminating research evidence and clinical knowledge to our communities, policymakers, and

government and non-government agencies. Our Wellington location gives us the added advantage of being well placed to positively influence these key audiences.

As part of our service to Wellington's communities, we host free public lecture series and seminars, and many of our staff donate time and expertise to health-focused community organisations. We are proud to be the University of Otago's capital city campus, and to contribute to the civic and intellectual life of the Wellington region.

We are committed to bridging the gap between great research and the New Zealanders it will ultimately benefit. Our effective advocacy, and our reach into hospital, government and community settings – both urban and rural – place us well to achieve this. Our philosophy of engagement is central to the experience we offer our students – an experience that is enhanced by teaching excellence and a dedicated student support service that ensures students are able to make the most of their time in our vibrant city and campus.

[otago.ac.nz/wellington](http://otago.ac.nz/wellington)





## Capital City

Wellington is New Zealand's capital city, and the seat of parliament. It's a vibrant city, renowned for its food, entertainment and arts culture. It is New Zealand's second most populous city but everything is easily accessible, including opportunities to venture out and explore the outdoors. The stunning waterfront, business and entertainment precincts are just minutes away from our conveniently located campus.

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## Division of Health Sciences

### Te Tautari Nui

A healthier community, a better tomorrow.  
Ko te ora o te āpōpō, ko te hapori.

#### Mission statement

The Division of Health Sciences will provide world-leading undergraduate and postgraduate educational offerings which produce a highly qualified health workforce that serves both local and international communities. It will yield high-calibre and impactful research that directly benefits the people of Aotearoa New Zealand and the globe, enabling them to live their healthiest lives.

Equitable health outcomes will be at the forefront of academic and professional leadership's decision making and strategic direction.

#### Academic disciplines

A myriad of employable and reputable undergraduate and postgraduate disciplines are offered including:

- Biomedical Sciences
- Dental Surgery
- Dental Technology
- Health Sciences
- Medical Laboratory Sciences
- Medicine and Surgery
- Nursing
- Oral Health
- Pharmacy
- Physiotherapy
- Radiation Therapy

These programmes include teaching subjects like Health Equity, Anatomy, Biochemistry, Genetics, Forensic Analytical Science, Microbiology, Immunology, Neuroscience, Pharmacology, Physiology and Bioethics.

The Division is New Zealand's only provider of Dental Surgery, Dental Technology and Radiation Therapy degrees.

It has a reputation for excellence, with its QS World University Subject Rankings as follows:

- Sports related subjects – #22 worldwide
- Anatomy and Physiology – #36 worldwide
- Dentistry – #50 worldwide

According to the Shanghai Academic Ranking of World Universities, the Division's Dentistry and Oral Sciences ranked 21st globally and first in New Zealand.

Otago also ranked top in New Zealand for Earth Sciences, Biotechnology, Medical Technology and Oceanography (first equal).

There are over 30 departments, which deliver 11 undergraduate qualifications and more than 70 postgraduate qualifications.





## Divisional structure

The Division of Health Sciences has a strong national presence with multiple clinical and teaching facilities across New Zealand, and major campuses in Ōtepoti Dunedin, Ōtautahi Christchurch and Pōneke Wellington.

Professional and academic staff report to the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Health Sciences who serves as the strategic leader of the Division. Their responsibility is to ensure the heads of faculties and professional activities and objectives align with overall divisional and university objectives.

The structure is as follows:

### Faculty of Biomedical Sciences

- Departments of Anatomy, Biochemistry, Physiology, and Microbiology and Immunology.

### Faculty of Dentistry

- Departments of Oral Diagnostic and Surgical Sciences, Oral Rehabilitation, Oral Sciences, and the Sir John Walsh Research Institute.
- Dental Hospital.

### Faculty of Health Professional Programmes

- School of Pharmacy.
- School of Physiotherapy.
- Departments of Nursing, Radiation Therapy, and Medical Laboratory Science.
- Centre for Interprofessional Education.

### Faculty of Medicine

One faculty operating across Christchurch, Dunedin, Wellington and the Centre for Rural Health.

- Departments of Bioethics; Māori/Indigenous Health Innovation; Medicine; Obstetrics and Gynaecology; Orthopaedic Surgery and Musculoskeletal Medicine; Paediatrics and Child Health; Pathology and Molecular Medicine; Primary Health Care; Public Health; Psychological Medicine; and Surgery and Critical Care, and the units of the Rural Health Academic Centre and the Kōhatu Centre for Hauora Māori.

## Scale and people

The Division of Health Sciences has approximately 6,500 equivalent full-time students (EFTS) across undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

Teaching and research are supported by over 1,400 full-time equivalent staff, including more than 1,000 academic staff. Many Faculty of Medicine staff hold joint clinical academic appointments with Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand, ensuring strong integration between education, research and clinical practice.



## Research excellence and impact

The Division of Health Sciences is a large and diverse academic community that organises and focuses its research and innovation efforts to deliver high-quality, impactful work.

The Division has key areas of strength that attract both national and international partnerships and have a significant and tangible impact on social wellbeing, sustainability and technology.

These key areas include:

- Mātauranga Māori
- Pacific health
- Lifespan studies
- Health systems and workforce development
- Sustainability
- Clinical and population health
- Major health issues
- Infectious diseases
- Mental health
- Biomedical discovery and technology
- New research frontiers

The Division is committed to advancing health outcomes, strengthening health systems and translating research into policy, practice and innovation.

In response to the New Zealand Government's Partnership for Excellence Framework, established in 2003, the University chose to invest in "Leading Thinkers". These people would serve as knowledge leaders that play a vital part in the nation's wellbeing.

Some of the Division's Leading Thinkers are:

- Professor Jemma Geoghegan – Webster Family Chair in Viral Pathogenesis
- Professor Stephen Robertson – Cure Kids Chair in Child Health Research
- Professor Rachael Taylor – Karitane Chair in Early Childhood Obesity
- Professor Neil Gemmill – AgResearch Chair in Reproduction and Genomics
- Professor Martin Kennedy – Carney Centre for Pharmacogenomics
- Professor Kurt Krause – Centre for Molecular Research in Infectious Diseases
- Dr Maree Inder – Gamma Research Fellow in Bipolar Disorder

## Research centres and institutes

Each campus hosts a range of prestigious research centres and institutes, including:

- Centre for Translational Cancer Research
- Centre for Rural Health
- Genetics Otago
- Centre for Men's Health
- Christchurch Heart Institute
- Centre for Neuroendocrinology
- Edgar Diabetes and Obesity Research
- Genetics Otago
- Otago Global Health Institute
- Maurice Wilkins Centre
- Cardiovascular Disease Research at Otago
- Child Health Research at Otago
- Cancer research at Otago
- Mental Health Research at Otago
- Pacific Health Research at Otago
- Public Health Research at Otago

Further information is available at:  
[otago.ac.nz/healthsciences](https://otago.ac.nz/healthsciences)

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## The University of Otago Ōtākou Whakaihu Waka

The University of Otago is New Zealand's oldest university and one of its finest. It is a leader across all fields of academic endeavour – the humanities, sciences, health sciences and business – regularly topping the New Zealand Tertiary Education Commission's education performance indicators.

Students can choose from more than 200 undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and are taught by leaders in their fields. The high calibre of teaching at Otago is reflected by an unparalleled record of success in the country's Tertiary Teaching Excellence Awards.

Research excellence underpins all academic activity: around 3,500 of the University's students study at postgraduate level. Otago is the home of New Zealand's first medical school and only schools of dentistry and surveying. Otago also is New Zealand's only provider of a Radiation Therapy programme and an undergraduate qualification in Neuroscience. The University has leadership roles in national Centres of Research Excellence and partnership roles in the country's National Science Challenges. It also hosts multidisciplinary research themes and research centres, including two of the world's most highly regarded health and development longitudinal studies.

The teaching year generally runs from February to November, broken into two 13-week semesters. A number of programmes are offered via distance learning and a Summer School is held for six weeks during January and February.

In addition to research and teaching excellence, the University is committed through its Strategic Direction to local, national and international betterment; strong external engagement; sustainable capability; and providing outstanding student experiences and campus environments.

The main campus is located in Dunedin – internationally recognised as one of the most beautiful campuses in the world – with significant health sciences campuses in Christchurch and Wellington, as well as a presence in Invercargill and Auckland.

The University of Otago is also strategically committed to furthering the aspirations of Māori, and our Pacific neighbours, and has memoranda of understanding with a number of iwi (tribes), in particular Ngāi Tahu, the mana whenua (the local tribal authority) of the University's main area of operation.

With more than 85 per cent of students coming from outside Dunedin, the University offers a unique campus-based lifestyle, a special feature of which are the 15 residential colleges located close to the heart of all University activities.





Providing a world-class environment for students and staff is a priority and the University has embarked on a significant capital development programme in recent years. Otago was the first New Zealand university to achieve Fair Trade status and our Social Impact Studio fosters a culture of volunteerism among staff and students.

The University of Otago is committed to see sustainability embedded as part of its core ethos. Its Sustainability Strategic Framework clarifies its commitment to enable a consistent, productive focus on sustainability, and to better communicate its efforts at all levels of the organisation. The framework articulates twenty-two strategies and a wide range of activities, within six interdependent themes.

The University is recognised as a Rainbow Tick certified employer. This accreditation shows that it has met a standard of inclusivity with respect to staff sexual orientation and gender identity, and that it is committed to continuous improvement.

The University of Otago includes four academic Divisions: Health Sciences, Humanities, Sciences and Commerce. In 2023, the University had approximately 18,960 equivalent full-time undergraduate students and more than 4,000 equivalent full-time staff.

The University has recently completed a major refresh of its strategic direction, releasing Vision 2040 as its long-horizon aspirational plan, and Pae Tata, its medium-horizon plan to 2030.

Further information is available from the University's website [otago.ac.nz](https://otago.ac.nz) as well as a number of other publications including:

The Annual Report  
[otago.ac.nz/annualreport](https://otago.ac.nz/annualreport)

He Kitenga Research Highlights  
[otago.ac.nz/hekitenga](https://otago.ac.nz/hekitenga)

Otago Magazine  
[otago.ac.nz/otagomagazine](https://otago.ac.nz/otagomagazine)

University of Otago InBrief  
[otago.ac.nz/inbrief](https://otago.ac.nz/inbrief)

Vision 2040  
[otago.ac.nz/otago0241079](https://otago.ac.nz/otago0241079)

Pae Tata  
[otago.ac.nz/otago0245908](https://otago.ac.nz/otago0245908)

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# Application Process

## Tono

### Submitting an Application

The University seeks written documents from candidates wishing to apply for the role.

Candidates are therefore required to provide:

- A CV, including employment history.
- A letter of application addressing the Person Profile.
- Names and contact details of at least three academic referees.

### Confidential enquiries may be directed to:

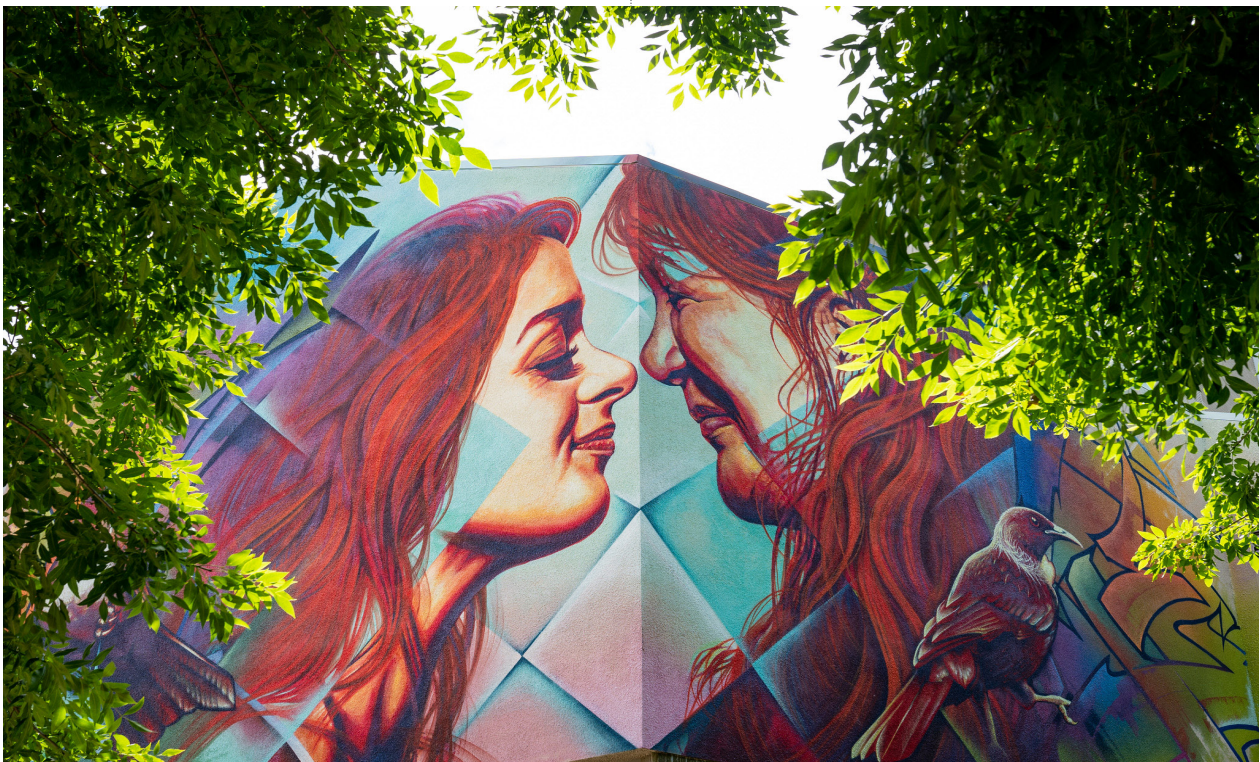
Professor Lynn McBain  
Head of Department  
Department of Primary Health Care  
Faculty of Medicine, Wellington  
[lynn.mcbain@otago.ac.nz](mailto:lynn.mcbain@otago.ac.nz)

### Referees

The University may contact all three or four referees listed in the application. The candidate should also state their relationship with each referee. Referees will only be contacted after prior consultation with the candidate. It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that their referees are willing to provide reports when contacted.

### Date of Appointment

The successful applicant will be able to take up the appointment at a mutually agreed time after 1 July 2026.





Auckland  
Tāmaki Makaurau

Wellington  
Pōneke

Christchurch  
Ōtautahi

 Dunedin  
Ōtepoti

Invercargill  
Waihōpai



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