

Position Description | Te whakaturanga ō mahi

Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora

This position description is intended as an insight to the main tasks and responsibilities required in the role and is not intended to be exhaustive. It may be subject to change, in consultation with the job holder.

Title	Registered Anaesthetic Technician OR RNAA
Reports to	Charge Anaesthetic Technician
Location	Christchurch
Department	Anaesthetic Technician/RNAA Department
Date	21-08-2026
Salary band (indicative)ⁱ	PSA/Apex Step 1-10 NZNO Nursing and Midwifery RN Step 1 - 7
Children's Worker roleⁱⁱ	Yes

Better Health, Better Care, Every Day.

Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora is committed to providing high-quality healthcare for all New Zealanders. We are focused on improving access to care, delivering better health outcomes, achieving national health targets, and ensuring the long-term sustainability of our health system.

We know that great healthcare starts with great people. That's why we are committed to building a high-performing, inclusive workplace where our people are supported to grow, contribute, and make a real difference for patients, whānau, and communities across Aotearoa.

About the role

The primary purpose of the role is to:

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The Anaesthetic Technician provides clinical leadership by supervising and guiding developing workforces including the RNAA training pathway and Perioperative Practice BHSc students, as well as support staff, promoting best practice standards and accountability in care delivery. Working collaboratively within the multidisciplinary operating theatre team, the role contributes to effective teamwork, communication, and coordination of resources to ensure efficient and responsive service delivery.

Collaborating closely with the multidisciplinary perioperative team, the Anaesthetic Technician contributes to optimising patient outcomes through effective communication, teamwork, and coordination of care. The role includes readiness to respond to emergency situations, maintaining a safe and secure environment by adhering to relevant policies, procedures, and protocols.

The Anaesthetic Technician supports the efficient operation of the department through responsible resource management and active participation in quality improvement and innovation initiatives. Commitment to ongoing professional development is essential, alongside upholding the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, promoting equity in healthcare, and demonstrating accountability in health and safety, compliance, and risk management practices.

Key Result Area	Expected Outcomes / Performance Indicators
The Anaesthetic Technician will behave in a professional manner, adhering to the standards and guidelines of the department	• Has a knowledge of the level 1, 2, and 3 anaesthetic machine check protocol recommended by the college of anaesthetists. • Is familiar with the minimum facilities for safe anaesthetic practice in operating suites as recommended by the college of anaesthetists.
The Anaesthetic Technician will use the professional framework to deliver quality care of the patient undergoing anaesthesia	• Assesses and responds to the patients' needs: physical, social, spiritual, emotional, and cultural. • Establishes priorities for individual patient care. • Utilises colleagues to assist with problems. • Accurately documents care given and information required for the patient management system i.e., fluids given, anaesthetic start time etc.
The Anaesthetic Technician will use the professional framework to deliver quality anaesthetic assistance	• Demonstrates a knowledge of the use, care, servicing, and maintenance of anaesthetic equipment. • Demonstrates a practical and theoretical understanding of anaesthetic techniques and requirements. • Has a working knowledge of anaesthetic invasive techniques and the ongoing management. • Demonstrates a knowledge of drugs used in anaesthesia. • Works in accordance with Health New Zealand's Anaesthetic Technicians policy regarding the administration of intravenous drugs and fluids
The Anaesthetic Technician will liaise with members of the Perioperative team to optimise patient outcomes	• Knows the role of the Perioperative team and functions as a team member. • Preserves patient confidentiality. • Timely involvement with appropriate professionals • Communicates effectively through the correct channels • Acts as an advocate for the patient
The Anaesthetic Technician is able to implement emergency procedures and maintain a safe and secure work environment by following relevant	• Demonstrates theoretical competency in emergency procedures; ○ Airway Management ○ Cardiac and Respiratory Arrest ○ Malignant Hypothermia

policies, protocols and standards	○ Drug Reaction ○ Fire • Monitor the patient's environment and intervene to provide safe and effective care. • Acknowledge own limitations in complex situations and seek assistance. • Has Health New Zealand Anaesthetic Technicians I.V. certificate, annual advanced CPR course, attended relevant fire lectures, completed annual machine check competency and POCT competency. • Adheres to standards for: ○ Safety ○ Hygiene ○ Infection control ○ Ethical ○ Medico Legal
The Anaesthetic Technician will contribute to the effective management of the department and utilise resources efficiently.	• Demonstrates responsible and cost-effective use of stock. • Participates in department meetings and decision-making processes. • Works effectively within a team. • Deputise for the Team Leader Anaesthetic Technicians within the department as required. • Is able to work autonomously within policy and protocol guidelines. • Mentor and support Newly graduated staff members, MSC supervision staff members and RNAA training program team members.
The Anaesthetic Technician will accept ongoing responsibility for professional development in conjunction with the Charge Anaesthetic and the Clinical Director – Anaesthesia.	• Updates clinical knowledge and skills through: ○ Participation in the teaching and assessing of others. ○ Acting as a role model. ○ Identifying professional goals annually in conjunction with line manager. - Preparation for annual performance appraisal. - Assisting in the induction/orientation of new staff. - Assist in compiling resource material for educational purposes at unit level. - Continue to advance clinical knowledge and skills through self-learning, department teaching/presentations, in-service education, external programs as approved.

Key Result Area	Expected Outcomes / Performance Indicators
Access and Outcomes	• Supports efforts to improve access to services and achieve better outcomes for the communities we serve. • Uses evidence and insights to identify barriers and opportunities for improvement. • Contributes to inclusive, responsive, and effective service delivery.
Te Tiriti o Waitangi	• Demonstrates a commitment to understanding and applying Te Tiriti o Waitangi in a practical and appropriate way. • Supports initiatives that improve outcomes for Māori and strengthen relationships with Māori partners and stakeholders. • Contributes to an inclusive workplace that values diversity and supports the attraction, development and retention of Māori employees.
Health & safety	• Exercises leadership and due diligence in Health and Safety matters and ensures the successful implementation of Health and Safety strategy and initiatives. • Takes all reasonably practicable steps to eliminate and mitigate risks and hazards in the workplace that could cause harm, placing employee, contractor and others' health, safety, and wellbeing centrally, alongside high-quality patient outcomes. • Leads, champions, and promotes continual improvement in health and wellbeing to create a healthy and safe culture.
Compliance and Risk	• Takes responsibility to ensure appropriate risk reporting, management and mitigation activities are in place. • Ensures compliance with all relevant statutory, safety and regulatory requirements applicable to the Business Unit. • Understands, and operates within, the financial & operational delegations of their role, ensuring peers and team members are also similarly aware.

Matters which must be referred to your manager

- Employees are expected to escalate matters early to ensure patient safety, service, continuity and compliance with organisational and legislative requirements.
- Operational issues
- Performance or competence concerns
- Situations that place patients, staff or yourself at significant risk without support
- Professional issues
- Clinical standards failure
- Competence concerns
- Workforce issues
- Fitness to practice issues
- Health & Safety concern

Relationships

External	Internal
• Technical Services - Electronics, Engineers • Other Departments	• Charge Anaesthetic Team Leaders and Technicians • Anaesthetists

	• Periop Nurse Manager / Theatre Nursing Coordinator • Theatre Team members – Surgeons, PACU, Operating Dept Assistants, Nursing staff • Other multi-disciplinary team members involved with the care and management of patients in the peri-operative service. • Clinical Engineering Dept • Service manager for Anaesthesia • Clerical and Administrative Staff
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About you – to succeed in this role

You will have

Essential:

- A relevant graduate and post-graduate qualification.
- Experience in implementing Te Tiriti o Waitangi in action.
- Anaesthetic Technician/RNAA international qualification or relevant
- New Zealand registered or eligible for NZ registration with the Medical Sciences Council
- Current APC
- Wide experience and knowledge of Anaesthetic practices

Desired:

- Minimum 2 years post qualification experience (essential if overseas qualified)
- Experience in all anaesthetic practices for all surgical specialties

You will be able to

Essential:

- Deliver results through effective planning, sound judgement, and personal accountability.
- Build trusted relationships and works collaboratively to achieve shared goals.
- Communicate clearly and adapts their approach to different audiences and situations.
- Demonstrate curiosity, adaptability, and a commitment to continuous improvement.
- Maintain high standards of professionalism, integrity, and ethical behaviour.
- Contribute to a positive, inclusive, and safe working environment.
- Take responsibility for their own development and supports the development of others where appropriate.
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ⁱ Salary band reference is for internal benchmarking and role sizing purposes only. The salary band designation is not a term or condition of employment and may be changed by the HNZ. Changes to the salary band will not affect an employee's current salary or remuneration.

ⁱⁱ The Children's Act 2014 makes provisions for the protection of children and helping them thrive, achieve and belong. At Health New Zealand, we safety check every children's worker. The purpose of this safety check is to reduce the risk of harm to young people and is a legal requirement for those employed in work that involves contact with children and young people including face-to-face, over the phone, or email contact. It is part of our commitment to ensuring the wellbeing and safety of children and young people. Your continued employment with Health NZ is conditional on a satisfactory safety check.