

# Pacific Health Research Committee

*(March 2020)*

## Terms of Reference

To provide advice to Council on matters of importance to Pacific health research for New Zealand<sup>1</sup>, particularly on areas of priority for investment, and where there are gaps in knowledge, capacity and capability.

The PacificRC should:

- present to Council annual strategic activities, and
- present to Council, in June of each year, a Pacific health research priorities document, as guidance to both Council and researchers.

To make recommendations to Council on any Pacific health research-specific funding opportunities delegated to the PacificRC by Council.

- The PacificRC will appoint the Chair for, and have no more than two members on the Pacific Project and Pacific Career Development Award Assessing Committee. Membership of the assessing committee will be determined by the Chair of the Assessment Committee and the HRC.

To monitor the performance of funding contracts for opportunities delegated to the PacificRC by Council.

To support the HRC in activities relating to Pacific health research:

- The PacificRC will advise on, and participate as appropriate, in Fono, workshops and promotion of HRC funding round.
- The PacificRC will provide input into the development of organisational strategic documents, guidelines and Investment Signals, as they relate to Pacific health.
- The PacificRC will provide advice to the HRC, when needed, on assessing committee members and peer reviewers for the range of the HRC's funding opportunities.

## Membership Composition

1. At least two people representing the health-related interests of Pacific people in New Zealand and the countries and territories of the Pacific.
2. At least four people with a strong and demonstrated record in health research, inclusive of expertise in qualitative research.

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<sup>1</sup> The HRC recognises the close relationship between Pacific peoples in New Zealand and the Pacific Island nations. While the mission of the HRC is to benefit New Zealand through the investment of public monies in health research, research to improve the health of Pacific people in New Zealand may involve peoples in the Pacific Island nations. Such research is considered in scope for the HRC, if the research is addressing goal(s) of the HRC's Investment Signals or a Request for Proposals.

3. Two ex-officio members: the Chief Executive of the HRC and a representative of the Ministry of Health.

Total membership: Eight

At any stage, as relevant to the work of the PacificRC, a person may be co-opted to the committee for a temporary period, e.g. Postgraduate research students.

### Term of Office

Members are appointed on the same three + three-year basis as other committees.

### Process for Appointment of Committee Members

The Chief Executive formally invites the proposed member recommended by the Committee and confirmed by the Council (Refer to HRC Appointment Policy for Statutory and Standing Committee Members).

Current Membership	Date Appointed	End of Term	Expertise	Location
Dr Ofa Dewes	01.2017	01.2020	Affiliate Investigator of the Maurice Wilkins Centre for Molecular Biodiscovery and Research Fellow at the School of Nursing, The University of Auckland	Auckland
(Chair)	12.2017	12.2020		
Reappointment	01.2020	1.2023		
Dr Riz Firestone	01.2019	01.2022	Senior Research Fellow/Associate Dean Pacific, Centre for Public Health Research, Massey University, Wellington Campus	Wellington

Current Membership	Date Appointed	End of Term	Expertise	Location
Dr Dianne Sika-Paotonu	12.2017	12.2020	Associate Dean Pacific/Senior Lecturer, Pathology & Molecular Medicine, University of Otago, Wellington	Wellington
Dr Bruce Su'a	01.2019	01.2022	Paediatric surgeon, Auckland Hospital	Auckland
Associate Professor Dan Tautolo	11.2016	11.2019	Associate Professor, Centre for Pacific Health and Pacific Islands Families (PIF) Study, Auckland University of Technology	Auckland
Reappointment	11.2019	11.2022		
Dr Paula Vivili	05.2014	05.2017	Director, Public Health Division, The Pacific Community	Noumea
Reappointment	09.2017	05.2020		
<b>Ex officio:</b>				
Chief Executive			HRC	Auckland
Ms Theresa Fabricius			MoH	Wellington
Secretary:	Ms Tolotea Lanumata			
Quorum:	Four			
Meetings per annum:	Four			
Reports to:	Council			
Established by:	Council – November 1990 (superseding the South Pacific Medical Research Committee)			
Reviewed:	September 1994, February 2012			
Disbanded:				