

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to welcome Dr Anthea Woodcock who has joined our medical team as a full time Senior Medical Officer. Anthea is a generalist who has had experience across a variety of fields including rural and remote medicine, emergency medicine, general medicine, and aeromedical retrieval. Anthea has interests across medico-legal and administration domains and is very enthusiastic to be joining the team.

CAA identification numbers

Last October we advised you that the EMPIC licensing module successfully went live. Pilots, maintenance engineers and air traffic controllers can now apply for and manage their licences online. They do this by registering to access “MyAviation”. In the process participants are provided a one-time number to allow them to access the portal.

We have experienced several applicants who have confused their one-time number with their CAA participant ID number. This has resulted in incorrect CAA participant ID numbers on medical certificates.

NB: If you have not sighted the previous medical certificate or would like to confirm that you have the correct CAA participant ID number, please check with us via phone or email.

NB: Please direct applicants to register on-line to obtain their CAA participant ID number. [Online services | aviation.govt.nz](https://aviation.govt.nz)

Easter in Queenstown

The joint AMSANZ and ASAM conference in Queenstown is rapidly approaching. We strongly encourage our Medical Examiners to attend a conference that has an exciting programme with a varied potpourri of presentations.

Day 2 of this conference is your opportunity to hear the views of three regulators – CAA NZ, CASA and FAA and industry on a range of topics including healthcare avoidance and non-disclosure, ADHD, what is acceptable risk in medical certification, and operational assessments.

As always, the meeting and functions are great opportunities for networking opportunity with our Australian and other international peers.

And the fun of the Warbirds over Wanaka on Sunday.

The link to register is <https://amsnz.org.nz/>

Spirometry

A reminder that Spirometry testing that was deferred via the Covid 19 Emergency Directive must be completed at the next assessment. If unsure, please contact us to clarify.

Please attach Spirometry reports to the medical assessment.

Back in Asteron

Following a transient three years, we are now finally back to our permanent national office location in the Asteron Centre after some structural remediation.

NB: Our physical address for the Medical Team is *Level 14, 55 Featherston St, Wellington 6011*

Massey University visit

On 24 January some of the team visited Massey University School of Aviation for their orientation day. We presented on pilot health wellbeing with a focus on mental health and AOD issues. The importance of seeking help and where pilots can get help were important topics of this discussion. The important role of Medical Examiners was also discussed with respect to co-ordinating support and negotiating CAA’s regulatory system.

CAA Av Med initiatives

CAA AvMed is well aware that we need to provide better support and advice to pilots, ATCs and MEs in the areas of mental health, AOD, healthcare avoidance and non-disclosure of medical conditions. We have been fortunate to have observer status in the FAA Advisory and Rulemaking Mental Health working group as well as the findings of the EASA MESAFE project.

We are working on an initiative to meet the challenges posed by pilot/ATC healthcare avoidance and non-disclosure of changes in medical condition. More to be disclosed at the Queenstown conference.

We have more initiatives in the pipeline.

Aviation Related Concerns

We have had 19 ARCs over the last year. The medical team has a system that carefully evaluates the validity and evidence for health-related concerns raised by third parties about

pilots or air traffic controllers. Whilst a range of issues are raised, many relate to mental health or AOD concerns.

HIMS NZ Seminar 23/24 July 2024 Auckland

Please see the following invitation to the HIMS NZ two-day Seminar in July. We encourage MEs to attend as this will be a great opportunity to learn more about problematic alcohol and other substance use, as well as mixing with peers and experts in this field.

Best regards

[from the Aviation Medicine Team](#)

HIMS NZ CONFERENCE 2024

HIMS (Human Intervention Motivation Study) NZ is a programme for members of the aviation community, aimed at helping anyone whose use of alcohol or other drugs is of concern. A cornerstone of HIMS is the understanding that substance dependence is a treatable medical condition.

HIMS is modelled on well-established overseas programmes which have assisted thousands of pilots return to work. It is an industry-wide effort in which employers, Unions and the Civil Aviation Authority work together to preserve careers and further flight safety. You can read more about HIMS NZ by going to our website: www.hims.org.nz.

We currently have eight aviation organisations who are members of HIMS NZ representing thousands of aviation individuals. Although HIMS NZ has an aviation focus the skills that we have learned and apply are equally relevant to addressing problems within other industries in a unique manner. It is therefore appropriate that we share with others our experience that may hopefully lead in finding pathways to help anyone at risk of dependency issues.

HIMS NZ is holding a two-day conference in Auckland 23/24 July 2024. You are invited to attend the conference to learn more about the disease of dependency with an aviation focus and what HIMS NZ is doing to help others.

We are always looking at ways to make our group stronger and to further assist those with use disorders. Please join us in sharing your ideas and experiences so that we may have a broader base in understanding and assisting affected individuals.

Attached is a flyer with details of the conference. If you are planning on attending could you please complete the registration process by completing this form or email shelly.sydney@airways.co.nz.

Organisations that are affiliated to HIMS NZ are encouraged to nominate individuals who will benefit from attending conference. There will be no registration fee for these people. For organisations or individuals that are not affiliated to HIMS NZ there will be a \$200 pp registration fee that will include catering and refreshments for the two-day event.

I look forward to seeing you at conference in July.

Chris Mehlhopt
Chairman HIMS NZ

HIMS NZ Seminar

23/24 July 2024

Auckland

- International experts Dr Navjot Bedi, Dr Quay Snyder and Captain Craig Ohmsieder lead a workshop on the misuse of alcohol and drugs in the aviation industry.
- Learn about the disease of addiction.
- Learn about the identification, intervention, treatment and monitoring of return to work for aviation professionals.

Where: Air New Zealand HUB, [185 Fanshawe Street, Auckland](#)

Contact:	Chris Mehlhopt	027 450 5015
	Simon Taylor	02102174568
	Shelly Sydney	027 809 5167

Register by [completing this form](#)

Email: shelly.sydney@airways.co.nz

\$200 Registration fee for non HIMS affiliated attendees



HIMS NZ

A Programme for Managing Substance Use Disorders in Aviation