

Position Description

Position	Student Cardiac Sonographer
Service / Directorate	Cardiology Service
Directorate	Sub Speciality Medicine
District	Capital, Coast & Hutt Valley
Responsible to	Charge Cardiac Sonographer
Children's Act 2014	This position is classified as a children's worker, requiring a safety check including police vetting before commencing and every three years
Location	The role holder will be based across Te Whatu Ora Capital Coast and Hutt Valley sites.

Te Whatu Ora

The Health System in Aotearoa is entering a period of transformation as we implement the Pae Ora/Healthy Futures vision of a reformed system where people live longer in good health, have improved quality of life, and there is equity between all groups.

We want to build a healthcare system that works collectively and cohesively around a shared set of values and a culture that enables everyone to bring their best to work and feel proud when they go home to their whānau, friends and community. The reforms are expected to achieve five system shifts. These are:

1. The health system will reinforce Te Tiriti principles and obligations
2. All people will be able to access a comprehensive range of support in their local communities to help them stay well
3. Everyone will have equal access to high quality emergency and specialist care when they need it
4. Digital services will provide more people the care they need in their homes and communities
5. Health and care workers will be valued and well-trained for the future health system

Context

Capital, Coast & Hutt Valley district provides hospital and health services in primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare to a total population base of approximately 445,000 citizens.

We are accountable for meeting the needs of and improving health outcomes for all the constituent populations of our district, and the region more broadly. Together we:

- provide secondary and tertiary, medical and surgical hospital services alongside community based health care
- fund local health providers and work collaboratively with the community to create and support multiple health education initiatives and projects within the region
- deliver health services directly as well as contracting external providers

[TeWhatuOra.govt.nz](https://www.TeWhatuOra.govt.nz)

Capital, Coast | Private Bag 7902, Newtown, Wellington 6342 | 04 385 5999
Hutt Valley | Private Bag 31907, Lower Hutt 5010 | 04 566 6999

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

- provide local, sub-regional, regional and national health services as well as community-based health, rehabilitation and support services.

The majority of the district's population live in Wellington and Lower Hutt. The Māori and Pacific populations of Lower Hutt and Wellington are proportionally similar, with the largest Pacific population in the region in Porirua. Kapiti and Upper Hutt have similar numbers of Māori and Pacific people. Most people are enrolled with a GP near their place of residence, so the increasing focus on community-based healthcare is expected to lead to better health outcomes for these population groups. Hutt Hospital provides secondary and some tertiary, medical and surgical hospital services alongside community based health care from its main facility in Lower Hutt City. In addition to funding local health providers and working collaboratively with the community to create and support multiple health education initiatives and projects, Hutt Hospital is the centre for five tertiary regional and sub-regional services - Plastics, Maxillofacial and Burns Services; Rheumatology; Dental Services; Regional Public Health; and Regional (Breast and Cervical) Screening Services.

Wellington Regional Hospital in Newtown is the region's main tertiary hospital with services such as complex specialist and acute procedures, intensive care, cardiac surgery, cancer care, neurosurgery and renal care. The hospital is the key tertiary referral centre for the lower half of the North Island and the upper half of the South Island.

Kenepuru Community Hospital and Kapiti Health Centre provide secondary and community services based in Porirua and the Kapiti Coast

MHAIDS is the mental health, addictions and intellectual disability service for the Wairarapa District and Capital, Coast & Hutt Valley District, with multiple specialist facilities. Ratonga Rua-o- Porirua is our forensic, rehabilitation and intellectual disability inpatient unit.

Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Māori Health Outcomes

Māori are the indigenous peoples of Aotearoa. We have particular responsibilities and accountabilities through this founding document of Aotearoa. We value Te Tiriti and have adopted the following four goals, developed by the Ministry of Health, each expressed in terms of mana and the principles of:

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| Mana whakahaere | Effective and appropriate stewardship or kaitiakitanga over the health and disability system. This goes beyond the management of assets or resources. |
| Mana motuhake | Enabling the right for Māori to be Māori (Māori self-determination); to exercise their authority over their lives, and to live on Māori terms and according to Māori philosophies, values and practices including tikanga Māori. |
| Mana tāngata | Achieving equity in health and disability outcomes for Māori across the life course and contributing to Māori wellness. |
| Mana Māori | Enabling Ritenga Māori (Māori customary rituals) which are framed by Te Aō Māori (the Māori world), enacted through tikanga Māori (Māori philosophy & customary practices) and encapsulated within mātauranga Māori (Māori knowledge). |

We will target, plan and drive our health services to create equity of health care for Māori to attain good health and well-being, while developing partnerships with the wider social sector to support whole of system change.

The Vision, Mission and Values from our District

We bring forward and join our values within our district. These will change as we become a team of teams within Te Whatu Ora.

Hutt Valley

- Vision:** Whanau Ora ki te Awakairangi: Healthy people, healthy families and healthy communities are so interlinked that it is impossible to identify which one comes first and then leads to another.
- Mission:** Working together for health and wellbeing.
- Ō mātou uara - Values:** Mahi Pai 'Can do': Mahi Tahi in Partnership: Mahi Tahi Te Atawhai Tonu
Always caring and Mahi Rangatira being our Best

Capital and Coast:

- Vision:** Keeping our community healthy and well
- Mission:** Together, Improve the Health and Independence of the People of the District
- Values:** Manaakitanga – Respect, caring, kindness
Kotahitanga – Connection, unity, equity
Rangatiratanga – Autonomy, integrity, excellence

District Responsibility

The district leadership have collective accountability for leading with integrity and transparency a progressive, high performing organisation, aimed at improving the health and independence of the community we serve and achieving equitable outcomes for all. The leadership team are responsible for achieving this aim, aligned with our Region, within the available resources, through a skilled, empowered, motivated and supported workforce in line with government and HNZ policy.

Unit Perspective

The Cardiology Service provides secondary and tertiary care for patients with cardiac health problems. Patients treated by the department on a secondary level are domiciled in the Wellington Region, Porirua basin and Kāpiti Coast.

Tertiary referrals are accepted from the Hutt Valley, Palmerston North, Mid Central, Wairarapa, Whanganui, Hawkes Bay and Nelson-Marlborough districts. All modern cardiac services are represented – except cardiac transplantation and complex paediatric procedures.

The Cardiology department includes, outpatient clinics, including specialist outpatient clinics at Wellington, Hutt Valley, Kenepuru, Kāpiti and Whanganui hospitals, a rehabilitation service and a range of diagnostic monitoring services at Wellington and a Cardiac Care Unit for acute cardiac assessment and management.

Day cases are managed in the Interventional Recovery Ward, adjacent to the cardiac catheter suite.

The cardiac procedure suite comprises of three catheter laboratories where a range of diagnostic and therapeutic activities are performed including:

- Cardiac catheterisation
- Coronary angiography and angioplasty
- OCI, IVUS, FFR
- Complex PCI/CTO
- Temporary and permanent pacemakers
- ICD and CRT implantation
- Interventional Electrophysiology
- Structural Heart Disease interventions including TAVI, PFO, ASD and LAAC
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We also offer a broad range of diagnostic imaging including:

- Echocardiography including contrast, 3D and stress echocardiography
- Transoesophageal echocardiography
- Cardiac MRI (1.5 and 3.0T)
- Cardiac CT

The Cardiology Department has strong associations with the on-site Wellington School of Medicine/University of Otago.

Purpose of the role

A Student Cardiac Sonographer is expected to complete a structured training programme that integrates clinical experience, academic coursework, and supervised practice, with the aim of becoming a fully qualified Cardiac Sonographer. You will be part of a supportive team comprising experienced Cardiac Sonographers, consultants, and fellow trainees, gaining hands-on experience in performing a variety of echocardiographic procedures in a clinical environment.

To achieve this, you will undertake a formal training programme in cardiac ultrasound (echocardiography), which includes:

- Completion of the University of Auckland (UoA) Postgraduate Diploma in Cardiac Ultrasound (PGDip). This programme is designed to develop your clinical skills, theoretical knowledge, and practical competency in performing, interpreting, and reporting adult transthoracic echocardiographic examinations.
- Competency will be assessed through departmental evaluations and established training guidelines.
- The qualification must be successfully completed within two years of your first available enrolment date at UoA following the start of employment.

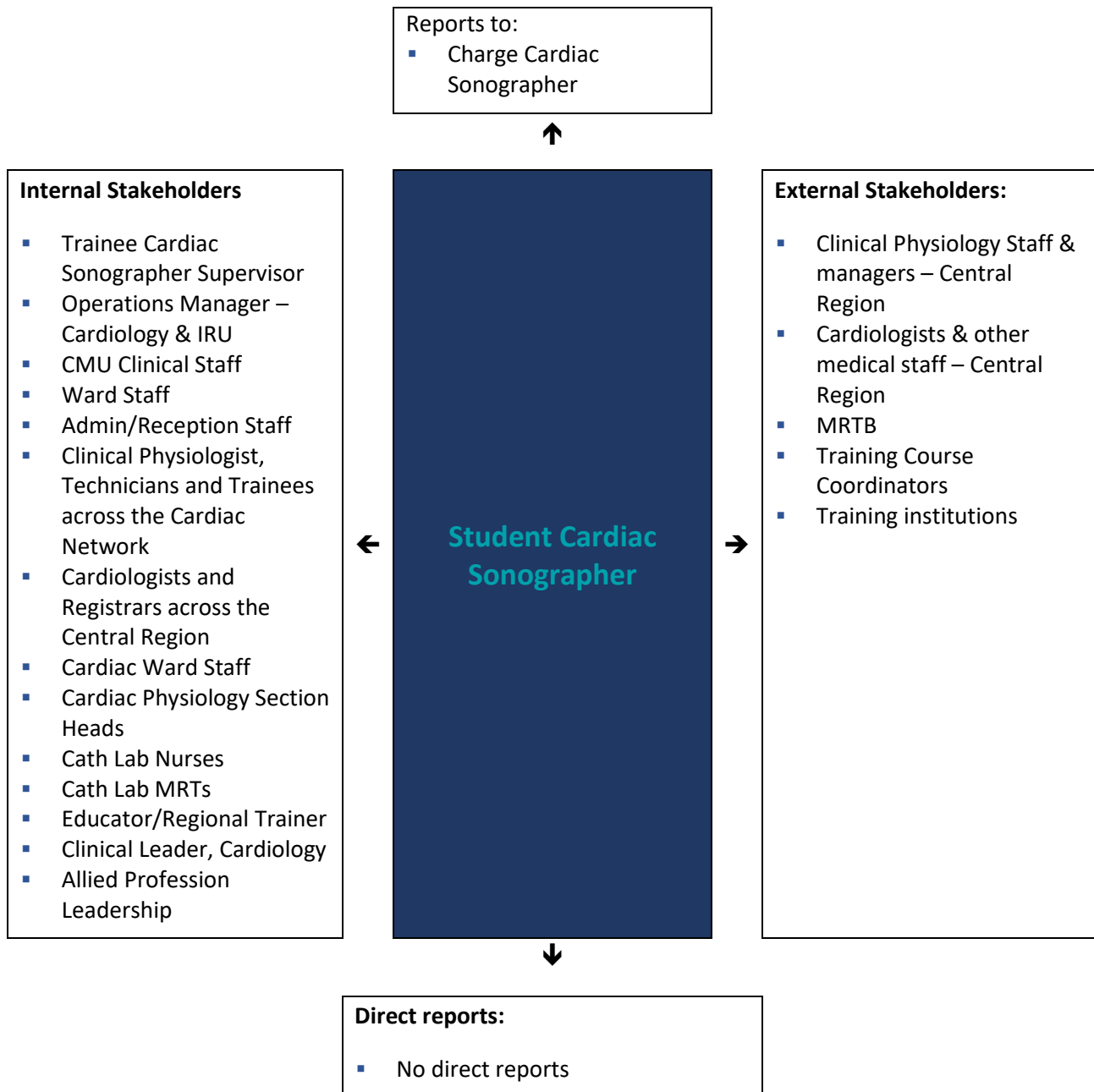
Upon successful completion of the PGDip, your role will be formally updated to reflect the position of Cardiac Sonographer.

Key Accountabilities

The following role accountabilities may evolve with organisational change and there may be additional duties, relevant to this position that will be required to be performed from time to time.

Key accountabilities	Deliverables / Outcomes
1. Provision of High Quality Cardiac Ultrasound Services	- Equipment is checked maintained and cleaned. - Complications (actual and potential) are recognised and corrected. - Health, safety and emergency procedures are followed Initiate and/or contribute to clinical review/ case conference meetings as appropriate. - Team nature of the service is understood and applied.
2. Professional Training	- Achieve training goals and competencies in the recommended time scale from department led training guidelines - Meet MRTB requirements and complete a PGDip Cardiac Ultrasound (UoA) within a 2 year time period from the first available UoA enrolment date after commencement of employment - Involvement with other disciplines is integral to service provided. - Demonstrate self-learning by critiquing scans and seeking feedback
3. Perform Clinical Procedures	- Perform adult transthoracic (TTE) scans - Perform measurements/calculations and interpret results recognising the need for consultation with medical staff. Initiate as necessary - Faults are recognised and self-corrected. - Report results in a timely manner. - All procedures and protocols are well known and understood. - Nature of equipment is understood and used optimally. - Recognise instrument faults or an inadequate standard of data and initiate problem solving techniques or involvement of appropriate personnel
4. Te Tiriti o Waitangi	- Work in partnership with stakeholders to achieve our equity goals for Māori and ensure Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations are adhered to - Equity outcomes are front and centre in goals, performance monitoring and plans for service and team performance - Cultural competence is grown across the team, supporting inclusion and partnership.
5. Health & Safety	- Ensure all Health & Safety obligations under the legislation are applied and managed to and that a culture of safe practice is second nature - Actively support and ensure compliance with Health & Safety policy and procedures; ensuring staff also support and comply. - Maintain a proactive culture of Health & Safety supported by systems. - Ensure providers are aware of and have processes to comply with their health and safety responsibilities

Key Relationships & Authorities



Capability Profile

Solid performance in the role requires demonstration of the following competencies. These competencies provide a framework for selection and development.

Competency	Behaviours
Composure	<i>Stays calm in spite of difficulties</i> - Is cool under pressure - Does not become defensive or irritated when times are tough - Is considered mature - Can handle stressful situations
Customer Focus	<i>Demonstrates commitment to understanding and providing what customers want.</i> - Is dedicated to meeting the expectations and requirements of internal and external customers - Acts with service users in mind - Establishes and maintains effective relationships with customers and gains their trust and respect
Integrity & Trust	<i>Is seen as a direct, truthful individual.</i> - Is widely trusted - Is seen as a direct, truthful individual - Can present the unvarnished truth in an appropriate and helpful manner - Keeps confidences - Admits mistakes - Doesn't misrepresent her/himself for personal gain
Teamwork	- Develops constructive working relationships with other team members. - Has a friendly manner and a positive sense of humour. - Works cooperatively - willingly sharing knowledge and expertise with colleagues. - Shows flexibility - is willing to change work arrangements or take on extra tasks in the short term to help the service or team meet its commitments.
Quality and Innovation	- Provides quality service to those who rely on one's work - Looks for ways to improve work processes - suggests new ideas and approaches - Explores and trials ideas and suggestions for improvement made by others - Shows commitment to continuous learning and performance development
Taking Responsibility	- Is results focussed and committed to making a difference - Plans and organises work, allocating time to priority issues, meeting deadlines and coping with the unexpected. - Adjusts work style and approach to fit in with requirements - Perseveres with tasks and achieves objectives despite obstacles - Is reliable - does what one says one will - Consistently performs tasks correctly - following set procedures and protocols
Communication	- Practises active and attentive listening - Willingly answers questions and concerns raised by others - Responds in a non-defensive way when asked about errors or oversights, or when own position is challenged - Is confident and appropriately assertive in dealing with others - Deals effectively with conflict - Explains information and gives instructions in clear and simple terms

Cultural Skills	• Words and actions show an understanding of the implications for one's work of Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles and Maori perspective as tangata whenua • Values and celebrates diversity - showing respect for other cultures and people's different needs and ways of living • Shows an awareness of gaps in, and a desire to increase, cultural knowledge and inter-cultural practice relevant to one's work • Accesses resources to make sure culturally appropriate and language appropriate services are provided • Draws on a client's own cultural resources and support frameworks
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Experience and Capability

Knowledge and experience:

- He or she must have a keen interest and knowledge of cardiac anatomy and physiology
- Prior experience with cardiac physiology work is desirable
- He or she is expected to complete PGDip in Health Science in Cardiac Ultrasound (UoA) within a 2 year time period. Programme is financially supported by Wellington Regional Hospital.

Relevant Academic Background

- Must have completed an undergraduate qualification in medical imaging or an approved biomedical science-related field (e.g. physiology, anatomy, or another medical or allied health profession).
- For example, a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Physiology meets this criterion.

Essential Professional Qualifications / Accreditations / Registrations

- Must be eligible to enrol in the Postgraduate Diploma in Cardiac Ultrasound (PGDip Cardiac Ultrasound) at the University of Auckland (UoA).
- Must be eligible for registration as a Trainee Cardiac Sonographer with the Medical Radiation Technologists Board (MRTB).

Someone well-suited to the role will place a high value on the following:

- Working within a team for good outcomes for patients who access the Cardiology Diagnostic service.
- Promoting a positive & collaborative team environment
- Continuous improvement and a passion to make a difference

Other:

- The ability to work in the cardiac cath lab wearing protective x-ray leads is a requirement
- Holds a valid full drivers licence

Ma tini, ma mano, ka rapa te whai
By joining together we will succeed

Te Whatu Ora is committed to Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles of partnership, participation, equity and protection by ensuring that guidelines for employment policies and procedures are implemented in a way that recognises Māori cultural practices.

We are committed to supporting the principles of Equal Employment Opportunities (EEO) through the provision and practice of equal access, consideration, and encouragement in the areas of employment, training, career development and promotion for all its employees.