

Medical Specialist – Palliative Medicine Nelson Tasman Hospice | Whakatū–Te Tai o Aorere

At Nelson Tasman Hospice, we provide compassionate, specialist palliative care that supports patients and their whānau to live as well as possible, for as long as possible. Our work is grounded in clinical excellence and extends beyond medicine alone — embracing equity, advocacy, dignity, and humanity at the end of life.

We are seeking an exceptional Medical Specialist in Palliative Medicine to deliver consultant-level care across the hospice service. This role works in close partnership with the Medical Director, a highly skilled interdisciplinary team, and regional health partners to provide leadership in complex, person-centred palliative care.

The Role

Key responsibilities include:

Provide consultant-level clinical care across hospice inpatient, community, and hospital settings, develop and regularly review specialist care plans; lead complex clinical decision-making, risk management, and quality.

Lead values-based advance care planning and goals-of-care with the interdisciplinary team, including in uncertainty, complexity, conflict, or ethical challenge.

Deliver advanced symptom management across physical, psychological, social, spiritual, and cultural domains, using shared decision-making with patients and their whānau.

Foster interdisciplinary leadership and education through active participation in MDTs and clinical governance; oversight of the Hospice House Officer; case-based teaching and capability-building for GPs, hospital clinicians, district nursing, and primary palliative care.

Integrate and consult across primary and secondary services, providing specialist advice and supporting shared-care models; ensure access and prioritisation through medical oversight of referrals, appropriate use of telehealth, and documentation that meets the Privacy Act, Health Information Privacy Code, and organisational standards.

Champion equity and cultural safety by embedding Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles (partnership, participation, protection), delivering culturally responsive care for Māori and diverse communities, and driving audit, evaluation, and continuous improvement to be consistent with contractual and health system requirements.

About You

You are a compassionate, skilled clinician and collaborative leader who:

Holds vocational registration with the Medical Council of New Zealand in Palliative Medicine, or in a closely related specialty with equivalent scope and experience (overseas-trained specialists considered where MCNZ eligibility and equivalence are met).

Actively participates in RACP MyCPD (or an approved equivalent) and meets MCNZ recertification requirements.

Demonstrates exceptional communication skills, cultural humility, and a strong commitment to patient- and whānau-centred care.

Thrives in interdisciplinary environments and builds effective partnerships with Te Whatu Ora, primary care, and community services.

Why join us?

This is a rare opportunity to make a profound difference in the lives of patients and whānau across the Nelson Tasman region. You will work within a values-driven, supportive hospice service that prioritises wellbeing, collaboration, equity, and clinical excellence — in a region offering outstanding lifestyle and community connection.

How do I apply?

A full job description and application instructions can be found on our recruitment app. Interviews may commence prior to close off on 31st March 2026

<https://nth.prolorus.app/vacancies> (you may need to copy and paste this link), or visit our website at <http://www.nelsonhospice.org.nz>.