

Ali's fabulous



foundation standards

Ali's Advice – helping practices navigate Foundation Standards with confidence

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Introduction

The RNZCGP Foundation Standards indicators and assessments are managed by the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners (RNZCGP). These standards are the hallmark of quality for general practice across Aotearoa and are required for practices to qualify for government funding.

This Tips & Tricks series is designed to support practices in managing the ongoing work required to meet RNZCGP Foundation Standards and to help make assessment preparation easier.

Why this matters

- Practices must maintain their Foundation Standards certification to continue operating as an accredited general practice.
- Completing your assessment before your certification expires is essential. Delays may affect funding eligibility and can be particularly problematic for teaching practices, where certification delays may impact GPEP training hours

Key Information

- WellSouth currently provides RNZCGP Authorised Assessors to complete Foundation Standards assessments for WellSouth practices at no charge. Please note: eligibility will cease for non WellSouth practices after 1 July 2026
- Practices are not required to use a WellSouth assessor. Private assessors are also available, and their names and contact details can be found on the RNZCGP website.
- To help the WellSouth team manage the potential workload of assessments, practices are asked to notify us as early as possible if they wish to use a WellSouth assessor. Even if your assessment is two or more years away, early notification helps ensure assessor availability.
- Assessment dates will usually be offered at least two months before your certification expiry date. This allows time for any post-assessment work that may be required, or Assessor moderation.
- Once an assessment date is confirmed, you will receive a Letter of Agreement between the practice and Assessor, outlining respective responsibilities and key dates. This must be signed and returned to your assessor.

Top Tip

To take advantage of a free assessment through WellSouth, and have not already done so, please email alison.wilden@wellsouth.org.nz now.

Need help?

- Your Practice Partner can support you in preparing for your assessment and understanding what requirements need to be completed. Email Daniela.duggan@wellsouth.org.nz, Karla.stiles@wellsouth.org.nz. Carolyn.martin@wellsouth.org.nz,
- If you need to access a new Smartsheet for your next Foundation Standards, or have any questions about annual fees, reach out the RNZCGP Quality team quality@rnzcgp.org.nz

Feedback/Suggestions:

For any feedback, or suggestions for future Top Tips, please email alison.wilden@wellsouth.org.nz

NEXT ISSUE

Indicator 12.1 – Changes to Sterilising Reusable Instruments