

# Prevention is the best cure: Preventive lessons from historic misconduct by clinicians in New Zealand

Many patients who file complaints regarding clinicians' misconduct claim their primary goal is to protect future patients. In this spirit, a team of New Zealand researchers have researched who, what, where, when and how misconduct occurred. Due to New Zealand's unique medico-legal system, the Health Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal has significant relevance for patient safety. Also, for those who believe that physicians should heal themselves, further ballast is provided our research on how clinicians' health impairments featured in disciplinary proceedings. We welcome your participation in this discussion as a foundation for future research across disciplines and the Tasman.

## About Professor Kate Diesfeld

After representing people with intellectual disability in Los Angeles, Kate was the Legal Supervisor for the Kent Kaw Clinic at the University of Canterbury in England. There she also represented people before the Mental Health Review Tribunal. Her roles in New Zealand included Director of the National Centre for Health Law and Ethics. At the University of Waikato's School of Law, she was the Associate Dean of Research. At Auckland University of Technology, currently she is Chair of the Ethics Committee and Professor of Law. With Professor Freckelton, QC she edited *Involuntary Detention and Therapeutic Jurisprudence*. Kate's research includes professional regulation as well as disability, elder and medical law.

The School of Public Health  
and Community Medicine

# Seminar Invitation

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February  
12:00 - 1:00 pm  
Room 305 Samuels Building



Light refreshment is provided

Venue: Room 305, Level 3, Samuels Building, UNSW Upper Campus, Randwick

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Parking: Available on L5 of the parking station; enter via Gate 11 Botany St, Randwick

Map: [www.facilities.unsw.edu.au/getting-uni/campus-maps](http://www.facilities.unsw.edu.au/getting-uni/campus-maps)



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