

Curriculum Vitae

Dr Gavin Colthart MBChB (Otago) BA (Hons) FRACGP

I have worked for the past 6 years as a part time GP/SMO covering the Magnetic Island Health Service, and since late 2025 as a casual GP/SMO with Torres and Cape HHS. From 2018 until 2025 I also worked as a part time GP based in Townsville and for the 5 years to November 2024, I was a medical educator with JCU Medical School and JCU GP Training/RACGP. I have a longstanding interest in remote and rural medicine, having trained and worked as an expedition medic on remote marine science projects in the Chagos Archipelago, Timor Leste, Belize and Madagascar. I also have a research interest in remote and tropical health and am a co-applicant/co-investigator on a long-term research project in cooperation with the New Guinea Binatang Research Centre, Madang, focussing on integrating health and environmental sustainability in a remote community in Papua New Guinea. I have undertaken fieldwork and co-authored three papers to date with this group.

After originally qualifying in New Zealand (MBChB Otago 1984) I moved to the UK in 1992 in a non-medical role, returning to medical practice in 2003 and gaining my MRCGP with distinction in 2008. Until August 2012 I also worked as a healthcare research specialist for the UK Parliament and have been a member of the Professional Executive Committee of the Brighton and Hove Primary Care Trust. In February 2018 I moved to Townsville to work as a GP and to undertake academic study at James Cook University.

My main clinical interests are medical teaching, emergency medicine, remote and expedition medicine, and dive medicine (UK Level 1 Medical Examiner of Divers). In addition to my medical and research work, I have 14 years of experience in healthcare management in New Zealand and Europe, including roles as an IT consultant, senior healthcare manager (Auckland Hospital and Regional Health Authority), and medical editor.

Professional Qualifications

2014	Fellowship of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners
2008	Membership of the Royal College of General Practitioners (with distinction)
2006	Diploma of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
1984	MBChB, University of Otago Medical School, Dunedin, New Zealand

Publications

Middleton, Jo ; Colthart, Gavin et al. **Health service needs and perspectives of a rainforest conserving community in Papua New Guinea's Ramu lowlands: a combined clinical and rapid anthropological assessment with parallel treatment of urgent cases.** BMJ Open (2023) <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2023-075946>

Middleton, J., Cassell, J.A., Colthart, G. et al. **Rationale, experience and ethical considerations underpinning integrated actions to further global goals for health and land biodiversity in Papua New Guinea.** Sustain Sci (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-020-00805-x>

Middleton J, Abdad MY, Beauchamp E, Colthart G et al. **Health service needs and perspectives of remote forest communities in Papua New Guinea: study protocol for combined clinical and rapid anthropological assessments with parallel treatment of urgent cases.** BMJ Open (2020) <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2020-041784>

Current Work

11/25 -present	SMO, Torres and Straits HHS (casual pool)
5/24 – present	GPwSI, Townsville University Hospital
5/20 – present	SMO, Magnetic Island Emergency Health Service
4/21 - present	Medical Educator, James Cook University and RACGP
3/18 - present	General Practitioner, Clements Medical Townsville

Other Previous Work

1/19 – 4/21	Year 4 Tutor, JCU Medical School
5/20 – 12/20	GP with Special Interest, ENT, Townsville University Hospital
10/08 – 2/18	General Practitioner, salaried and locum, Brighton, UK
10/15 – 6/16	Associate Tutor, Brighton and Sussex Medical School
5/08 – 8/12	Senior Researcher, Medicine and Healthcare, UK Parliament
4/10 – 2/11	Professional Executive Committee (PEC), Brighton & Hove Primary Care Trust.

Key Experience: Management

During 2010 and early 2011 I was a member of the Professional Executive Committee of the Brighton & Hove Primary Care Trust, contributing to general governance matters and focussing on urgent care and development of IT. I also worked part-time in the UK House of Commons as a health researcher, have spoken at Westminster on medical ethics, and have presented to GP colleagues on healthcare law and policy.

I have previously worked with the Auckland Regional Health Authority as Assistant Manager of Clinical Services Review and as Surgical Services Manager at Auckland Hospital, where I was also Assistant General Manager. I subsequently worked as a management consultant, initially for Digital Equipment Corporation (then the world's second largest computer company) and later for KPMG Peat Marwick, working mainly on large information system projects in hospitals in the UK and Italy.

I have also been a managing editor at ADIS Press, an international medical publishing company founded in New Zealand. I was initially responsible for evaluation and analysis of clinical trials and went on to edit Hospital Therapeutics (Australasia), The Journal of General Practice (NZ) and was founding editor of The Australian Journal of Practice Management.

Previous Appointments

2003-2008	Brighton VTS scheme (see above)
2002 – 2003	Honorary Fine Art Technician, University of Brighton
1999 – 2002	Full time study - BA (Hons) in Fine Art Printmaking, University of Brighton
1994 – 1999	Freelance IT Consultant, Devon, UK and Milan, Italy
1993 – 1994	Executive IT Consultant, KPMG Peat Marwick, London
1991 – 1993	Healthcare IT Consultant, Digital Equipment Corporation, NZ and UK
1989 – 1991	Assistant General Manager/Surgical Services Manager, Auckland Hospital
1988 – 1989	Medical Officer, Auckland Hospital, Auckland, New Zealand
1984 – 1988	Managing Editor, ADIS Press, Auckland, New Zealand
1983 – 1984	House Officer, Gisborne Hospital Board, Gisborne, New Zealand
1982 – 1983	Trainee Intern, Wellington Hospital Board, Wellington, New Zealand

Other interests and experience

I have a lifelong interest in marine biology, having originally intended to train in this field, and have dived since I was a teenager. I currently hold the PADI Divemaster qualification and have dived extensively in the Pacific, Caribbean, and Indian Oceans. Before entering medical school, I was involved in fine art photography, exhibiting in shows in Wellington and Auckland in the 1980s, and have work included in the National Museum of New Zealand collection. I resumed more active fine art practice in 1998 and in 2002 completed a BA in Fine Art (first class honours) from the University of Brighton. I have since exhibited in the UK and a work was short-listed for the Jerwood Drawing Prize in 2004.

I have also worked as a sailing and windsurfing instructor, run a mail-order book business specialising in environmental thought and practice, engaged in various forms of environmental and peace activism, volunteered as a Samaritan at music festivals throughout the UK, coordinated the Brighton Peace and Environment Centre, and am a qualified yoga instructor.