

# ***CURRICULUM VITAE***

***Sanji Gunasekara***  
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## **Personal details and contact information**

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## **Employment history**

- Senior Policy Analyst, New Zealand Drug Foundation (January 2009 – Current)
- Assistant Research Analyst, New Zealand Defence Force (August 2008 – December 2008)
- Freelance Writer (March 2008 – August 2008)
- Visiting Research Fellow, International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES), Kandy, Sri Lanka (November 2007- February 2008)
- Foreign Policy Officer, New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (November 2006-October 2007)
- Medical writer/editor, New Zealand Guidelines Group (May 2006-November 2006)
- Freelance medical writer (June 2004-February 2005)
- Medical writer, ACUMED, The Gardiner Caldwell Group, A Thomson Healthcare Company, Macclesfield, Cheshire, United Kingdom (February 2003-February 2004)
- Evidence-based medicine editor for PDxMD (now First Consult), an Elsevier Science Company (freelance basis from September 2002-February 2003)
- Medical writer/researcher/editor at Clineanswers, a Wolters Kluwer International Health and Science Company, Auckland, New Zealand (January 1999-September 2002)
- Medical writer at Adis International Limited, a Wolters Kluwer International Health and Science Company, Auckland, New Zealand (April 1997-January 1999)
- House officer at Rotorua Hospital, Rotorua, New Zealand (November 1995-November 1996)

## **Academic record and qualifications**

- Master of International Relations (MIR) with distinction from Victoria University, Wellington (2006).
- Postgraduate Diploma in Public Health (PGDipPH) from the University of Auckland (2004).
- Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) from the University of Auckland (1995)
- Bachelor of Human Biology (BHB) from the University of Auckland (1992)
- Junior University Scholarship (1989)

## **Selected Publications**

- Beyond the sensationalism: making sense of Mexico's drug wars: Matters of Substance, New Zealand Drug Foundation, August 2009 [forthcoming]
- Wort watch: the evidence. New Zealand Doctor. 15 November 2006: 19
- Atrial fibrillation: Information for you, and your family, whānau and friends. New Zealand Guidelines Group, 2006 [available from URL: [www.nzgg.org.nz](http://www.nzgg.org.nz)]
- Gunasekara NS, Spencer CM, Keating GM. Ziprasidone: a review of its use in schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder. *Drugs* 2002;62(8):1217-51
- Spencer CM, Gunasekara NS, Hills C. Zolmitriptan: a review of its use in migraine. *Drugs* 1999 Aug;58(2):347-74
- Gunasekara NS, Noble S. Isosorbide 5-mononitrate: a review of a sustained-release formulation (Imdur) in stable angina pectoris. *Drugs* 1999 Feb;57(2):261-77
- Gunasekara NS, Balfour JA. Management of community-acquired pneumonia: defining the role of azithromycin. *Disease Management and Health Outcomes* 1999 Jan;5(1):41-54
- Gunasekara NS, Spencer CM. Quetiapine: a review of its use in schizophrenia. *CNS Drugs* 1998 Apr;9(4):325-40
- Gunasekara NS, Faulds D. Raltitrexed: a review of its pharmacological properties and clinical efficacy in the management of advanced colorectal cancer. *Drugs* 1998 Mar;55(3):423-35
- Gunasekara NZ, Noble S, Benfield. Paroxetine: an update of its pharmacology and therapeutic use in depression and a review of its use in other disorders. *Drugs* 1998 Jan;55(1):85-120
- Gunasekara NS, Wiseman LR. Naratriptan: new drug profile. *CNS Drugs* 1997 Nov;8(5):402-8

## **Travel articles**

- Mixing it in Sri Lanka. *Travelsrilanka* Vol.5 No. 7. May 2008
- Medical tourism. Sri Lanka: the complete health destination. *Travelsrilanka* Vol.5 No. 8. June 2008
- Ella. Sublimity and Beauty. *Travelsrilanka* Vol.5 No. 8. June 2008
- The rock carvings of Buduruwagala. *Travelsrilanka* Vol.5 No. 8. June 2008
- Filmed in Sri Lanka *Travelsrilanka* Vol.5 No. 8. June 2008

- The moonstone. Spiritual sculpture. Travelsrilanka Vol. 5 No. 10. August 2008
- Lost hamlet in the jungle: trekking back in time. Travelsrilanka Vol 5. No 11. September 2008
- Target Ceylon, 1942. Travelsrilanka Vol 5. No 11. September 2008
- Reminiscences of Wren Adrienne. Vol 5. No 11. September 2008
- The elephant in antiquity. Travelsrilanka Vol.5 No. 12. October 2008
- Mamboz beach cabanas. Travelsrilanka Vol.5 No. 12. October 2008
- The Mount Lavinia and Galle Face Hotels: the grand old dames. Travelsrilanka Vol.5 No. 12. October 2008

## **Interests**

- Music
  - Play the piano, saxophone, clarinet and drums
  - Obtained LTCL qualification in piano from the Trinity College of Music (1993)
- Politics
  - Take a keen interest in global political issues. Particular interests include issues relating to conflict and security in Asia, postcolonial perspectives, social justice, sustainable development and international migration
- Travel
  - Enjoy travelling and the opportunity to learn about other cultures
- Cricket
  - Closely follow international cricket and enjoy playing cricket on a social level
- Other
  - Wellington representative of AFLAC International