

Richard Leona

Richard Walsh Leona, whose traditional chiefly title is 'ViraGalana', is from the island of Raga, Republic of Vanuatu. Richard holds a Masters of Medicine in Surgery from the University of the South Pacific, Fiji. As part of his studies, he worked for two years at Palmerston North Hospital, New Zealand. He also undertook a one year fellowship in Urology at Geelong Hospital, Barwon Health Board, Victoria, Australia.



Richard is now practising as a Consultant General Surgeon with a subspecialty in Urology. He is based at the Vila Central Hospital, the national referral hospital for Port Vila. He is also the Medical Superintendent (Head of the Hospital) overseeing the running of the hospital.

Richard has founded two charitable organisations. The first, the 'Huhugaitivwa Association', has 18,000 members. It supports such projects as a producers' cooperative, a lending scheme, and an online college based on Raga. The second, 'Friends of Vanuatu', enables people from around the world to assist Vanuatu.