



ANALYSIS

Title
1. Short Title

2. Interpretation
3. Reporting of maternal deaths by
medical practitioners

1979, No. 99

An Act to amend the Maternal Mortality Research Act 1968
[13 December 1979]

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. Short Title—This Act may be cited as the Maternal Mortality Research Amendment Act 1979, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Maternal Mortality Research Act 1968 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act).

2. Interpretation—Section 2 of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing the definition of the term “maternal death”, and substituting the following definition:

“‘Maternal death’ means—

“(a) A death that occurs during pregnancy or within a period of 3 months after the date of the conclusion of a pregnancy:

“(b) A death of a woman who at the time of her death was suffering from chorionepithelioma or hydatidiform mole.”.

3. Reporting of maternal deaths by medical practitioners—

(1) Section 9 of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after subsection (1), the following subsection:

“(1A) Every pathologist who performs an autopsy on the body of a woman and who knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that her death was a maternal death shall forthwith, and not in any event later than 24 hours after the performance of the autopsy, notify the Medical Officer of Health for the health district in which the death occurred of the name of the woman, the cause of her death, the reason why he knows, or has reasonable cause to suspect, that the death was a maternal death, and his own name and address.”

(2) Section 9 (2) of the principal Act is hereby amended by inserting, after the words “subsection (1)”, the words “or subsection (1A)”.

This Act is administered in the Department of Health.
