



Health Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activity: Waikato District Health Board) Notice 2004

Pursuant to section 54 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003, the Minister of Health gives the following notice.

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Notice

- 1 Title**
This notice is the Health Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activity: Waikato District Health Board) Notice 2004.
- 2 Commencement**
This notice comes into force on the day after the date of its notification in the *Gazette*.
- 3 Declaration of protected quality assurance activity**
The Waikato District Health Board Quality Assurance Activity described in the Schedule is a protected quality assurance activity.

Schedule

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Description of Waikato District Health Board Quality Assurance Activity

1 Objective

The objective of the activity is to improve the practices and competence of health practitioners engaged in the activity by assessing the health services performed by those health practitioners.

2 Method

- (1) The activity is based on information derived from health practitioners who provide health services on behalf of the Waikato District Health Board.
- (2) The activity involves—
 - (a) the examination of patients' records; and
 - (b) the analysis of the following data on patients:
 - (i) admission and discharge; and
 - (ii) morbidity; and
 - (iii) mortality; and
 - (iv) outcomes of treatment; and
 - (c) the identification and analysis of any process or practice that results in an outcome for patients which may, but need not, be an adverse outcome; and
 - (d) the holding of peer review meetings; and
 - (e) the review of—
 - (i) patient management; and
 - (ii) treatment decisions; and
 - (iii) internal auditing of procedures; and
 - (f) the making of recommendations on how the health practitioners who are engaging in the activity can improve their performance so as to—
 - (i) improve the quality of care they provide; and
 - (ii) reduce the incidence of adverse outcomes; and
 - (g) the facilitation and monitoring of the implementation of any such recommendations.

Dated at Wellington this 16th day of August 2004.

Hon Annette King,
Minister of Health.

Explanatory note

This note is not part of the notice, but is intended to indicate its general effect.

This notice, which comes into force on the day after the date of its notification in the *Gazette*, declares the quality assurance activity called the Waikato District Health Board Quality Assurance Activity to be a protected quality assurance activity. The effect of this declaration is that, subject to certain exceptions,—

- any information that becomes known solely as a result of the activity is confidential; and
- any documents brought into existence solely for the purposes of the activity are confidential; and
- the persons who engage in the activity in good faith are immune from civil liability.

Under section 54(4) of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003, this notice remains in force for a period of 5 years after the date on which it is issued, unless it is sooner revoked.

An earlier notice (SR 1999/92) declared the Health Waikato Medical Practitioners' Audit Activity to be a quality assurance activity under the provisions of the Medical Practitioners Act 1995, which have been repealed by the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003. That notice has expired.

Issued under the authority of the Acts and Regulations Publication Act 1989.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 26 August 2004.

This notice is administered in the Ministry of Health.
