



Medical Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activity: First Health Limited) Notice 2002

Pursuant to section 68(1) of the Medical Practitioners Act 1995, the Minister of Health gives the following notice.

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Notice

- 1 Title**
This notice is the Medical Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activity: First Health Limited) Notice 2002.

 - 2 Commencement**
This notice comes into force on the day after the date of its notification in the *Gazette*.

 - 3 Declaration of quality assurance activity**
The quality assurance activity called the “First Health Limited Quality Assurance Activity” and described in the Schedule is a quality assurance activity to which Part VI of the Medical Practitioners Act 1995 applies.
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Schedule

Description of First Health Limited Quality Assurance Activity

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1 Interpretation

In this schedule, **activity** means the First Health Limited Quality Assurance Activity.

2 Sponsor

The activity is carried out under the auspices of First Health Limited, which is a provider of health services.

3 Method

- (1) The activity is based on information derived from medical practitioners who provide health services, on behalf of First Health Limited, at 1 or more of the general practices in the North Island that form part of the First Health Limited network.
- (2) The activity involves—
 - (a) the examination of patients' records; and
 - (b) the review of—
 - (i) patient management; and
 - (ii) medical management; and
 - (iii) treatment decisions; and
 - (iv) outcomes of treatment; and
 - (v) patient satisfaction; and
 - (c) the identification and analysis of adverse outcomes; and
 - (d) the review, analysis, and monitoring, through peer review, of medical practitioners' medical knowledge, management, and interpersonal relationships; and
 - (e) the making of recommendations on how the medical 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
 - (f) the facilitation and monitoring of the implementation of any such recommendations.

4 Objective

The objective of the activity is to improve the quality of care provided by medical practitioners engaged in the activity.

Dated at Wellington this 28th day of October 2002.

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 declares that the quality assurance activity called the “First Health Limited Quality Assurance Activity” is a quality assurance activity to which Part VI of the Medical Practitioners Act 1995 applies. Medical practitioners who provide health services, on behalf of First Health Limited, at 1 or more of the general practices in the North Island that form part of the First Health Limited network will participate in the 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 69 of the Medical Practitioners Act 1995, this notice remains in force for a period of 5 years after the date on which it is issued, unless it is sooner revoked.

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

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 7 November 2002.

This notice is administered in the Ministry of Health.
