



SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE

OF

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*Appointment of Committee of Inquiry into Allegations Concerning
the Treatment of Cervical Cancer at National Women's Hospital
and into Other Related Matters*

To all to whom these presents shall come, and to:

SILVIA ROSE CARTWRIGHT of Auckland, a District Court Judge:

Whereas Sandra Coney and Phillida Bunkle have made, in an article published in the issue of *Metro* of June 1987 at pages 46 to 65 (hereinafter referred to as "the *Metro* article"), allegations concerning the treatment of cervical cancer at the National Women's Hospital: And whereas it is desirable that inquiry should be made into the treatment of cervical cancer at that hospital:

Now, therefore, pursuant to section 13 (3) of the Hospitals Act 1957, I, MICHAEL EDWARD RAINTON BASSETT, Minister of Health, hereby appoint you, the said Silvia Rose Cartwright, to be a Committee of Inquiry to inquire into—

- (1) Whether, as alleged in the *Metro* article, there was a failure adequately to treat cervical carcinoma in situ (CIS) at the National Women's Hospital and, if so, the reasons for that failure and the period for which that failure existed:
- (2) Whether, as alleged in the *Metro* article, a research programme into the natural history of cervical cancer was conducted at the National Women's Hospital and, if so,—
 - (a) Whether it was approved by any person or body before it was instituted or while it was under way; and
 - (b) Whether patients examined or treated in the course of the programme were aware that they were participants in a research programme?

- (c) Whether any expressions of concern about the programme were considered at the time, and, if so, by whom?
- (3) Whether there is a need to contact women who have been referred to or treated for CIS at the National Women's Hospital with a view to providing further advice or treatment or both to them?
- (4) Whether the procedures observed at the National Women's Hospital for the approval of research and/or treatment, and for its surveillance are adequate, and, in particular whether they ensure that the rights of patients, are protected?
- (5) What steps, if any, need to be taken to improve the protection of patients in respect of whom research and/or treatment is conducted at the National Women's Hospital?
- (6) Whether patients at the National Women's Hospital are properly informed of the treatment and options available to them and, if not, the steps that need to be taken to see that they are?
- (7) (a) What training has been and is being given at the National Women's Hospital to medical students and medical practitioners in relation to the proper detection and treatment of cervical cancer?
- (b) Should steps be taken to improve this training, or to inform previous trainees about the proper detection and treatment of cervical cancer?
- (8) The nature of the relationships between the academic and clinical units at the National Women's Hospital?
- (9) Any other matter which in your opinion is relevant to the detection and treatment of cervical cancer at the National Women's Hospital: