



Health Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activities—Wairarapa DHB) Notice 2010

Pursuant to section 54 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003, the Minister of Health, being satisfied of the matters set out in section 54(3) of that Act, gives the following notice.

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Notice

- 1 Title**
 This notice is the Health Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activities—Wairarapa DHB) Notice 2010.
- 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 activities**
 Both of the following quality assurance activities described in the Schedule are protected quality assurance activities:
 - (a) Wairarapa DHB Clinical Audit:

- (b) Wairarapa DHB Mortality and Morbidity Review.

4 Revocation

The Health Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activity: Wairarapa District Health Board) Notice 2004 (SR 2004/216) is revoked.

Schedule

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Description of Wairarapa DHB Quality Assurance Activities

1 Interpretation

In this schedule,—

participant means—

- (a) a health practitioner who—
- (i) is employed by the Wairarapa DHB; or
 - (ii) is not employed by the Wairarapa DHB, but who—
 - (A) is authorised to work within the Wairarapa DHB; or
 - (B) has an access agreement with the Wairarapa DHB; and
- (b) is participating in either or both of the quality assurance activities described in clauses 4 and 5

Wairarapa DHB means the Wairarapa District Health Board established by or under section 19(1) of the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000.

2 Objective

The objective of the activities is to improve the practices and competence of participants by assessing the health services performed by them.

3 Information

The activities are based on information derived from the participants.

4 Wairarapa DHB Clinical Audit

The Wairarapa DHB Clinical Audit quality assurance activity involves—

- (a) conducting clinical audits to review the clinical practices of multi-disciplinary health practitioner teams, including review of—
 - (i) diagnostic procedures; and
 - (ii) treatment decisions; and
 - (iii) patient care processes; and
 - (iv) resource allocations and usage; and
 - (v) outcomes of treatment and care for patients; and
- (b) comparing the results of clinical audits with relevant internal and external benchmarking standards; and
- (c) identifying clinical practices that do not conform with the benchmarking standards referred to in paragraph (b); and
- (d) introducing initiatives aimed at improving clinical practice to better ensure the benchmarking standards referred to in paragraph (b) are achieved; and
- (e) monitoring the implementation of the initiatives referred to in paragraph (d).

5 Wairarapa DHB Mortality and Morbidity Review

The Wairarapa DHB Mortality and Morbidity Review quality assurance activity involves—

- (a) holding mortality and morbidity review meetings to discuss processes and practices where there has been—
 - (i) a patient death; or
 - (ii) an acute transfer of a patient; and
- (b) preparing reports on the matters discussed at the meetings described in paragraph (a); and
- (c) reviewing those reports; and
- (d) making recommendations on how the health practitioners who are engaging in the activity can improve their practices and competence to—
 - (i) improve the quality of care they provide; and
 - (ii) reduce the incidence of adverse outcomes; and
- (e) facilitating and monitoring the implementation of recommendations described in paragraph (d).

Dated at Wellington this 3rd day of February 2010.

Hon Tony Ryall,
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 2 quality assurance activities sponsored by the Wairarapa DHB to be protected quality assurance activities. The effect of this declaration is that—

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

The protections afforded by this notice are subject to certain statutory exceptions. For example, this notice does not prohibit the disclosure of information that does not identify, either expressly or by implication, a particular individual.

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.

This notice revokes the Health Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activity: Wairarapa District Health Board) Notice 2004, which has expired.

2010/7

**Health Practitioners (Quality Assurance
Activities—Wairarapa DHB) Notice 2010**

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

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 11 February 2010.

This notice is administered by the Ministry of Health.
