

Serial Number 1952/213



THE HOSPITALS MEDICAL INFORMATION NOTICE 1952

PURSUANT to section 31 of the Statutes Amendment Act 1944, the Minister of Health hereby gives notice as follows:—

1. This notice may be cited as the Hospitals Medical Information Notice 1952.

2. (1) The provisions of section 31 of the Statutes Amendment Act 1944 shall not apply to—

(a) Information briefly describing the nature of the injuries of a patient suffering from the results of an accident, if the information is given within twenty-four hours after the patient's admission to hospital and is given by the Medical Superintendent of the hospital, or by any other medical officer authorized by the Medical Superintendent, to any person authorized by the editor or publisher of any registered newspaper to collect information for publication in that newspaper:

(b) Information required by the Director-General of Health for statistical purposes.

(2) The notice given pursuant to the said section 31 on the 26th day of January 1945* is hereby revoked.

Dated at Wellington, this 19th day of November 1952.

J. R. MARSHALL,
Minister of Health.

* Statutory Regulations 1945, Serial number 1945/7, page 10; *Gazette*, 8 February 1945, Vol I, page 130.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

Section 31 of the Statutes Amendment Act 1944 prohibits the disclosure by any employee of a Hospital Board of any information concerning the condition or treatment of a patient, without the consent of the patient or his representative; but there are certain specified exceptions, and the Minister of Health may prescribe others.

This notice excepts from the operation of section 31 any information briefly describing the injuries of a patient suffering from the results of an accident, if given, within twenty-four hours after the patient's admission to hospital, by the Medical Superintendent or an authorized medical officer to a reporter from a registered newspaper. It also repeats, with amendment, the provisions of an earlier notice (Serial number 1945/7) which excepted any information required by the Government Statistician for statistical purposes. That information is now collected by the Department of Health, and a reference to the Director-General of Health has accordingly been substituted for the reference to the Government Statistician.

Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act 1936.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 27 November 1952.

These regulations are administered in the Department of Health.

(H.—Hosp. 76.)