



# Health Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activity: Mercy Hospital Surgical Audit) Notice 2007

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: Mercy Hospital Surgical Audit) Notice 2007.
  - 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 Mercy Hospital Surgical Audit Quality Assurance Activity described in the Schedule is a protected quality assurance activity.
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## **Schedule**

### **Description of Mercy Hospital Surgical Audit 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 Information**

The activity is based on information derived from health practitioners who provide health services at Mercy Hospital Dunedin Limited and who are—

- (a) registered to practise surgery; or
- (b) registered to practise anaesthetics.

#### **3 Method**

The activity involves—

- (a) completing, in respect of all surgical procedures undertaken at Mercy Hospital Dunedin Limited, surgical audit forms that include information on morbidity, mortality, and complications arising from the procedures undertaken; and
- (b) preparing reports on the basis of the information provided in the surgical audit forms; and
- (c) participating in surgical audit meetings convened to review cases and discuss issues arising from the reports referred to in paragraph (b); and
- (d) participating in meetings of the Anaesthetic Department of Mercy Hospital Dunedin Limited to review and discuss anaesthetic complications arising from surgery; and
- (e) making recommendations on how health practitioners who are engaging in the activity can improve their performance so as to—
  - (i) improve the quality of services provided at Mercy Hospital Dunedin Limited; and
  - (ii) reduce the potential for complications to arise from surgical procedures undertaken; and

- (f) facilitating and monitoring the implementation of any such recommendations.

Dated at Wellington this 19th day of April 2007.

Pete Hodgson,  
Minister of Health.

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### 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 Mercy Hospital Surgical Audit 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.

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

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 31 May 2007.

This notice is administered by the Ministry of Health.

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