



Health Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activity—Australasian Society of Breast Physicians) Notice 2006

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—Australasian Society of Breast Physicians) Notice 2006.
 - 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 Australasian Society of Breast Physicians Quality Assurance Activity described in the Schedule is a protected quality assurance activity.
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Schedule

Description of Australasian Society of Breast Physicians 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 Method

- (1) The activity is based on information derived from health practitioners who participate in the activity and who are—
 - (a) members of the Australasian Society of Breast Physicians; and
 - (b) engaged in active clinical practice in New Zealand.
- (2) The activity involves—
 - (a) auditing the clinical practice of health practitioners engaged in the activity by reviewing and assessing consultations undertaken by them, with particular focus on clinical note taking and record keeping, protocols, assessment, and management; and
 - (b) identifying processes or practices that result in an outcome for patients which may, but need not be, an adverse outcome; and
 - (c) identifying complications or problems arising with the following procedures:
 - (i) fine needle aspiration; and
 - (ii) core biopsy; and
 - (iii) hook-wire localization; and
 - (iv) sentinel node injection; and
 - (d) reviewing and assessing the results obtained under paragraphs (b) and (c), by way of discussion at peer review meetings; and
 - (e) making recommendations on how health practitioners who are engaged 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 complications; and

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

Dated at Wellington this 28th day of March 2006.

Pete Hodgson,
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 the quality assurance activity called the Australasian Society of Breast Physicians 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.

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

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 13 April 2006.

This notice is administered in the Ministry of Health.
