



**MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS (QUALITY ASSURANCE ACTIVITY:  
HEALTHLINK SOUTH) NOTICE 1999**

PURSUANT to section 68 (1) of the Medical Practitioners Act 1995, the Minister of Health gives the following notice.

ANALYSIS

1. Title and commencement
2. Declaration of quality assurance activity
3. Duration of notice

SCHEDULE  
Description of Healthlink South Quality Assurance Activity

NOTICE

**1. Title and commencement**—(1) This notice may be cited as the Medical Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activity: Healthlink South) Notice 1999.

(2) This notice comes into force on the day after the date of its notification in the *Gazette*.

**2. Declaration of quality assurance activity**—The quality assurance activity called the “Healthlink South Quality Assurance Activity” and described in the Schedule is a quality assurance activity to which Part VI of the Medical Practitioners Act 1995 applies.

**3. Duration of notice**—This notice remains in force for a period of 5 years after the date on which it is issued, unless it is sooner revoked.

## SCHEDULE

Cl. 2

## DESCRIPTION OF HEALTHLINK SOUTH QUALITY ASSURANCE ACTIVITY

**1. Interpretation**—In this Schedule, the term “activity” means the Healthlink South Quality Assurance Activity.

**2. Sponsor**—The activity is carried out under the auspices of Healthlink South Limited, which is a hospital and health service.

**3. Method**—(1) The activity is based on information derived from Healthlink South Limited.

(2) The activity involves—

(a) The examination of patients’ medical records; and

(b) The analysis of the following data on patients:

(i) Admission and discharge; and

(ii) Length of stay; and

(iii) Morbidity; and

(iv) Mortality; and

(v) Outcomes of treatment; and

(c) The identification and analysis of adverse outcomes; and

(d) The holding of peer review meetings; and

(e) The review of—

(i) Patient management; and

(ii) Treatment decisions; and

(iii) Internal auditing procedures; and

(iv) Outcomes of treatment; and

(f) The making of recommendations on how medical practitioners who are engaging 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

(g) The monitoring of the implementation of any such recommendations.

**4. Objective**—As required by Part VI of the Medical Practitioners Act 1995, the objective of the activity is to improve the quality of care provided by medical practitioners engaged in the activity.

Dated at Wellington this 19th day of July 1999.

WYATT CREECH,  
Minister of Health.

---

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This notice declares that the quality assurance activity called Healthlink South Quality Assurance Activity is a quality assurance activity to which Part VI of the Medical Practitioners Act 1995 applies. Medical practitioners who from time to time provide health care for Healthlink South Limited will engage in the activity.

The effect of this declaration is that, subject to certain exceptions,—

- (a) Any information that becomes known solely as a result of this quality assurance activity is confidential; and
- (b) Any documents brought into existence solely for the purposes of this quality assurance activity are confidential; and
- (c) The persons who engage in this quality assurance activity in good faith are immune from civil liability.

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*: 29 July 1999.  
This notice is administered in the Ministry of Health.