



Health Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activity—Central Otago Health Services Limited) Notice 2014

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 Activity—Central Otago Health Services Limited) Notice 2014.
- 2 Commencement**
This notice comes into force on 7 November 2014.

3 Revocation of this notice

This notice is revoked at the end of the period for which it remains in force under section 54(4) of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003.

4 Declaration of protected quality assurance activity

The quality assurance activity called the Central Otago Health Services Limited Medical Peer Review Activity and described in the Schedule is a protected quality assurance activity.

5 Revocation

The Health Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activity—Central Otago Health Services Limited) Notice 2009 (SR 2009/337) is revoked.

Schedule

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**Description of Central Otago Health
Services Limited Medical Peer Review
Activity**

1 Interpretation

In this schedule,—

activity means the Central Otago Health Services Limited Medical Peer Review Activity

participant means a health practitioner who—

- (a) is employed by Central Otago Health Services Limited; and
- (b) provides health services at Dunstan Hospital.

2 Objectives

The objectives of the activity are to enable—

- (a) review of the health services provided by the participants to ensure the best possible clinical standards of practice are being achieved and maintained; and
- (b) improvement in the quality of care provided to patients.

3 Information

The activity is based on information derived from participants.

4 Activity

The activity involves—

- (a) examining mortality and morbidity data to—
 - (i) identify and examine trends; and
 - (ii) compare it with national guidelines; and
- (b) conducting clinical audits to identify any improvements that may be made to—
 - (i) clinical practices and procedures; and
 - (ii) health services provided to patients; and
- (c) reviewing cases that have involved any 1 or more of the following:
 - (i) an unexpected death;
 - (ii) an outcome that may, but need not, be an adverse outcome;
 - (iii) an unexpected transfer to another hospital;
 - (iv) a readmission within 1 week of discharge;
 - (v) concerns about patient care management; and
- (d) holding peer review meetings to discuss the information gathered under paragraphs (a) to (c); and
- (e) making recommendations on how participants can—
 - (i) update their practices; and
 - (ii) improve the quality of the health services provided to patients; and
- (f) facilitating and monitoring the implementation of any recommendations made under paragraph (e).

Dated at Wellington this 8th day of August 2014.

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 comes into force on 7 November 2014. It declares the Central Otago Health Services Limited Medical Peer Review Activity described in the *Schedule* to be a protected quality assurance activity. The effect of this declaration is that—

- 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.

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 revoked before then.

This notice revokes the Health Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activity—Central Otago Health Services Limited) Notice 2009.

Issued under the authority of the Legislation Act 2012.
Date of notification in *Gazette*: 21 August 2014.
This notice is administered by the Ministry of Health.
