



## Health Practitioners (Protected Quality Assurance Activity—SATURN) Notice 2017

Pursuant to section 54(3) of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003, the Minister of Health, being satisfied of the matters set out in that subsection, gives the following notice.

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### Notice

#### 1 Title

This notice is the Health Practitioners (Protected Quality Assurance Activity—SATURN) Notice 2017.

#### 2 Commencement

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

#### 3 Interpretation

In this notice,—

**SATURN** means the Supportive Anaesthesia Trainee Audit and Research Network

**specified health practitioner** means a health practitioner who is a member of SATURN and—

- (a) is an anaesthesia trainee or anaesthesia specialist; or
- (b) is assisting a person specified in paragraph (a).

#### 4 Declaration of protected quality assurance activity

The following quality assurance activities are protected to the extent that they are undertaken by members of SATURN in relation to specified health practitioners:

- (a) collecting audit and observational information to evaluate anaesthesia services; and
- (b) collecting information about patient satisfaction and quality of recovery after surgery; and
- (c) using the information gathered under paragraphs (a) and (b) to improve—
  - (i) the quality of information given to patients during the perioperative process; and
  - (ii) outcomes relating to the provision of anaesthetic services at an individual and hospital level.

Dated at Wellington this 31st day of August 2017.

Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman,  
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 the day after the date of its notification in the *Gazette*. It declares the quality assurance activities described in *clause 4* to be protected. Quality assurance activities are activities that are undertaken to improve the practices or competence of health practitioners by assessing the health services performed by those practitioners. The effect of protecting a quality assurance activity 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.

This notice remains in force for 5 years.

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Activity—SATURN) Notice 2017**

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This notice is administered by the Ministry of Health.

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Wellington, New Zealand:

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