



Health Practitioners (Protected Quality Assurance Activity—Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Practice Visit Programme) 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—Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Practice Visit Programme) 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,—

practice visit means a visit to a practitioner's workplace by a reviewer

practitioner means a medical practitioner—

- (a) who is a Fellow of RANZCOG; and
- (b) who is practising in New Zealand

RANZCOG means the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecology

reviewer means a practitioner who is appointed by the subcommittee to assess another practitioner's practices and competence

specified health practitioner means—

- (a) a reviewer; and
- (b) a practitioner; and
- (c) a subcommittee member

subcommittee means the New Zealand Practice Visit Subcommittee of RANZCOG

subcommittee member means a member of the subcommittee who is a practitioner.

4 Declaration of protected quality assurance activity

The following quality assurance activities are protected to the extent that they are undertaken by specified health practitioners:

- (a) a practitioner preparing for a practice visit by—
 - (i) completing a practice profile questionnaire:
 - (ii) completing a self-assessment survey:
 - (iii) carrying out of a patient satisfaction questionnaire and collating the results:
 - (iv) compiling a surgical logbook for surgical work carried out in the previous 3 months:
 - (v) preparing a complaints and complications process:
- (b) a practitioner, during a practice visit,—
 - (i) carrying out a patient consultation while being observed by a reviewer:
 - (ii) carrying out a surgical session while being observed by a reviewer:
- (c) a practitioner, during or after a practice visit,—
 - (i) discussing with the reviewer any document produced for the purposes of paragraph (a); or
 - (ii) discussing with the reviewer any unresolved complaints received from patients; or
 - (iii) participating in a concluding interview with the reviewer:
- (d) a reviewer, during or after a practice visit,—
 - (i) reviewing and discussing with the practitioner any document produced for the purposes of paragraph (a):

- (ii) reviewing case records held by the practitioner:
- (iii) discussing with the practitioner any unresolved complaints received from patients:
- (iv) reviewing the practitioner's practice surroundings:
- (v) observing the practitioner carrying out a patient consultation:
- (vi) observing the practitioner carrying out a surgical session:
- (vii) interviewing people working with the practitioner:
- (viii) reporting the results of the practice visit to the subcommittee:
- (e) a subcommittee member—
 - (i) evaluating and finalising a report received under paragraph (d)(viii):
 - (ii) providing the report to the practitioner and advising on any recommended changes to his or her clinical practices to address any shortcomings or other matter identified in the report:
- (f) monitoring the implementation of any recommendations made under paragraph (e)(ii).

5 Revocation of previous notice

The Health Practitioners (Quality Assurance Activity—Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists) Notice 2011 (SR 2011/356) is revoked.

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

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Explanatory note

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- 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.

Issued under the authority of the Legislation Act 2012.
Date of notification in *Gazette*: 21 September 2017.
This notice is administered by the Ministry of Health.