



## Health Practitioners (Protected Quality Assurance Activity—Australasian College for Emergency Medicine) Notice 2020

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—Australasian College for Emergency Medicine) Notice 2020.

#### 2 Commencement

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

#### 3 Interpretation

In this notice, **specified health practitioner** means a health practitioner who is practising in emergency medicine in New Zealand.

#### 4 Declaration of protected quality assurance activity

The following quality assurance activities are protected to the extent that they are undertaken by the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (**ACEM**) in relation to specified health practitioners:

- (a) participants using the Emergency Medicine Events Register (**EMER**) to report incidents arising in the provision of emergency medicine services; and
- (b) analysing information recorded in the EMER to—
  - (i) produce data on the number and type of incidents that arise in the provision of emergency medicine services; and
  - (ii) identify risks to patient safety; and
  - (iii) identify processes and practices that contributed to incidents; and
  - (iv) produce case studies on different types of incidents, how incidents could have been prevented, or how harm to patients could have been minimised; and
- (c) individuals or organisations acting with the approval of ACEM disseminating, in publications and at conferences, findings and case studies obtained by analysing information recorded in the EMER; and
- (d) ACEM using EMER findings and case studies to inform the review and development of—
  - (i) professional standards for emergency medicine services; and
  - (ii) the curriculum for emergency medicine trainees in New Zealand and Australia.

Dated at Wellington this 5th day of September 2020.

Hon Jenny Salesa,  
for the 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

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Explanatory note

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- 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, unless sooner revoked.

Issued under the authority of the Legislation Act 2012.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 17 September 2020.

This notice is administered by the Ministry of Health.