

1995

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL
TERRITORY**

**PUBLIC HEALTH (CERVICAL CYTOLOGY) REGULATIONS
(Amendment)**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Circulated by authority of

Kate Carnell, Minister for Health and Community Care

Public Health (Cervical Cytology) Regulations (Amendment)

Outline

The *Public Health (Cervical Cytology) Regulations* were enacted as Subordinate Law No. 30 of 1994, on the 19 September 1994, and tabled as a disallowable instrument in the Assembly on 11 October 1994. The Regulation was amended on 7 December 1994 under the provisions of the *Subordinate Laws Act 1989*.

The purpose of the Regulations is to develop protocols for the establishment of the cervical cytology register, to ensure that the role of health practitioners and laboratories is clear, to protect the privacy of the women whose cervical smears are being recorded and to encourage those women to have regular smears for the prevention of onset of cervical cancer. The composition and functions of the cervical cytology register management committee are also included in the Regulations.

Amendments have been made by Parliamentary Counsel's Office to reflect accurate numbering and definitional changes arising from the amendment of 7 December 1994.

Financial Considerations

The Regulations (Amendments) do not involve any additional expenditure by the agency.

Clause Notes

Clause 3 Interpretation

The amendment to the Regulations omits the definition of "cervical material" and provides for a definition of "cervical tissue" in this clause.

Clause 4 Obligations of health practitioner and person in charge of laboratory

In the amendment to this clause reference to "the patient" is replaced by "each woman from whom a cervical smear or cervical tissue is to be taken". The word "material" is replaced by "tissue" and subregulation (1) is renumbered as (1A).

Clause 8 Disclosure of identifying information - women

In this clause the word "material" is replaced by "tissue" in paragraphs (2) (a) and (2) (b)