



24 August, 2012

Advisory Committee on Assisted Reproductive Technology
PO Box 5013
WELLINGTON

Tēnā koutou katoa

Proposed Amendments to Guidelines on Surrogacy Arrangements involving Providers of Fertility Services and Guidelines on Donation of Eggs or Sperm between Certain Family Members

The New Zealand Nurses Organisation welcomes the opportunity to comment on the above consultation document.

NZNO supports the proposed changes to the *Guidelines on Surrogacy Arrangements* which align surrogacy with other human rights legislation by removing unjustified discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender. The amended guidelines are consistent with NZNO's Code of Ethics which acknowledges that cultural safety is integral to nursing practice and that culture encompasses class, sexual orientation, religion, age and gender. We congratulate the Committee on providing an ethical framework for guiding surrogacy arrangements which respects the rights of individual people and groups, and that recognises the unique contextual determinants of ethical decisions concerning surrogacy arrangements, which include cultural, family whānau, professional, religious and personal beliefs.

Nāku noa, nā

Marilyn Head
Policy Analyst
Phone: 04 494 6372
Email: Marilyn.h@nzno.org.nz

NEW ZEALAND NURSES ORGANISATION

The New Zealand Nurses Organisation (NZNO) is the leading professional body of nurses and nursing union in Aotearoa New Zealand, representing over 46 000 nurses and health workers. Te Runanga o Aotearoa is the arm through which our Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership is articulated. Our members include nurses, midwives, students, kaimahi hauora, health care workers and allied health professionals.

The NZNO vision is "Freed to care, Proud to nurse". Our members enhance the health and wellbeing of all people of Aotearoa New Zealand and are united in their professional and industrial aspirations.