

1992

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDIES (CONFIDENTIALITY) ACT 1992

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDIES (CONFIDENTIALITY) REGULATIONS

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Circulated by authority of

**Mr Wayne Berry MLA
Minister for Health**

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OUTLINE

The Epidemiological Studies (Confidentiality) Regulations have been prepared in line with paragraph (b) of the definition of "prescribed study" in subsection 3 (1) of the Epidemiological Studies (Confidentiality) Act 1992. This Act requires any study which is proposed as a 'Territory epidemiological study' to be declared by Regulation.

Therefore these Regulations declare the study known as the 'Feasibility Research into the Controlled Availability of Opioids' being conducted jointly by the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health and the Australian Institute of Criminology as a "prescribed study".

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with these Regulations.

CLAUSE NOTES

Clause 1: Short title

The Regulations may be referred to as the Epidemiological Studies (Confidentiality) Regulations.

Clause 2: Commencement

Notifies that the Regulations commence on the day they are notified in the ACT Government Gazette.

Clause 3: Interpretation

States that unless another meaning is given the term "the Act" refers to the *Epidemiological Studies (Confidentiality) Act 1992*.

Clause 4: Prescribed Study

As required by paragraph (b) subsection 3 (1) of the *Epidemiological Studies (Confidentiality) Act 1992* this clause provides the name and definition of the current epidemiological study being prescribed a Territory epidemiological study..

The named study is 'Feasibility Research into the Controlled Availability of Opioids' and is a study in relation to the feasibility trial of providing opioids in a controlled manner to users of opioids in the Territory. It is being jointly conducted by the National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health and the Australian Institute of Criminology and commenced in May 1991.

The Clause also defines "opioid" as being opium or a drug that has a morphine-like pharmacological effect, being a synthetic or semi-synthetic drug or an opium derivative.