



NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

No. 29 of 1984

AN ACT

To amend the *Medical Practitioners Registration Act*

[Assented to 20 July 1984]

BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory of Australia, with the assent as provided by the *Northern Territory (Self-Government) Act 1978* of the Commonwealth, as follows:

1. SHORT TITLE

This Act may be cited as the *Medical Practitioners Registration Amendment Act 1984*.

2. COMMENCEMENT

This Act shall come into operation on a date to be fixed by the Administrator by notice in the *Gazette*.

3. PRINCIPAL ACT

The *Medical Practitioners Registration Act* is in this Act referred to as the Principal Act.

4. INTERPRETATION

Section 5 of the Principal Act is amended -

(a) by inserting after the definition of "Judge" the following:

"'medical company' means a company incorporated in the Territory that is authorized by its memorandum or articles of association to engage in providing any medical or surgical advice, service, attendance, treatment or operation and, where it does so engage, will do so by way of a registered medical practitioner;"; and

Medical Practitioners Registration Amendment

(b) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) For the purposes of this Act, other than Parts II and III, unless the contrary intention appears, 'registered medical practitioner' includes a medical company."

5. PROCEDURE FOLLOWING COMPLAINT

Section 31B of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from sub-section (3) "one month" and substituting "3 months".

6. PERSON NOT TO PRACTISE EXCEPT IN HIS OWN NAME OR IN NAME OF MEDICAL COMPANY

Section 33 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after "name" the words "or in the name of a medical company".

7. NEW SECTION

The Principal Act is amended by inserting after section 42B the following:

"42C. MEDICAL COMPANIES

"(1) A registered medical practitioner may, with one or more other registered medical practitioners, form a medical company by incorporation under the *Companies Act*.

"(2) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), an individual registered medical practitioner may, with one other person who is not a registered medical practitioner, form a medical company by incorporation under the *Companies Act*.

"(3) A medical company shall not be incorporated except under a memorandum and articles of association, and a name, approved by the Board.

"(4) The shareholders of a medical company who are registered medical practitioners shall be jointly and severally responsible for the liabilities, and be deemed jointly and severally to guarantee the debts, of the medical company.

"(5) In this section 'shareholders' includes persons for whose benefit a share in the medical company is being held in trust and the trustee of the share."