

EXECUTIVE NOTE

The National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2005 SSI/2005/618

The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred on Scottish Ministers by sections 27(1) and (2), 105(7) and 108(1) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978. The instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure.

The primary regulations, made in 1995, will be repealed in 2006 and replaced with regulations which provide for the introduction of a new pharmaceutical care services contract. For this reason, there is no intention to consolidate these regulations.

Policy Objectives

The policy objective is to help patients with chronic medical conditions who need to obtain a repeat supply of their long term medication at a weekend or over a public holiday, when they are unable to get a repeat prescription from their GP surgery.

The purpose of this instrument is to provide for NHS community pharmacists to supply certain drugs and appliances without a repeat prescription form being presented. The instrument requires that any such supply of drugs and appliances be made under the terms of a Patient Group Direction issued by a Health Board in accordance with Article 12C of the Prescription Only Medicines (Human Use) Order 1997 (exemption for persons conducting a retail pharmacy business who supply or administer prescription only medicines under a Patient Group Direction).

Consultation

There has been no formal, public consultation during the preparation of the instrument.

Financial Effects

This instrument carries no financial implications for the Scottish Executive or NHS Scotland. Although repeat medicines supplied under the new arrangements will reach patients by a new supply route, each patient will receive no more medicine than they would have obtained on a GP prescription.

Scottish Executive Health Department
November 2005