



National Health Service Act 1977

1977 CHAPTER 49

PART VI

MISCELLANEOUS AND SUPPLEMENTARY

General provisions as to charges

^{F1}122C Offences.

- (1) A person is guilty of an offence if he does any act mentioned in subsection (2) below with a view to securing for himself or another—
 - (a) the evasion of the whole or part of any charge under this Act in respect of the provision of goods or services to which section 122A above applies,
 - (b) the reduction, remission or repayment of any such charge, where he or (as the case may be) the other is not entitled to the reduction, remission or repayment,
 - (c) a payment under this Act (whether to, or for the benefit of, himself or the other) in respect of the cost of obtaining such goods or services, where he or (as the case may be) the other is not entitled to, or to the benefit of, the payment.
- (2) The acts referred to in subsection (1) above are—
 - (a) knowingly making, or causing or knowingly allowing another to make, a false statement or representation, or
 - (b) in the case of any document or information which he knows to be false in a material particular, producing or providing it or causing or knowingly allowing another to produce or provide it.
- (3) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale.
- (4) A person, although he is not a barrister or solicitor, may conduct any proceedings under this section before a magistrates' court if he is authorised to do so by the Secretary of State.

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- (5) Proceedings for an offence under this section may be begun within either of the following periods—
- (a) the period of three months beginning with the date on which evidence, sufficient in the opinion of the Secretary of State to justify a prosecution for the offence, comes to his knowledge,
 - (b) the period of 12 months beginning with the commission of the offence.
- (6) For the purposes of subsection (5) above, a certificate purporting to be signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of State as to the date on which such evidence as is mentioned in paragraph (a) of that subsection came to his knowledge is conclusive evidence of that date.
- (7) Where, in respect of any charge or payment under this Act—
- (a) a person is convicted of an offence under this section, or
 - (b) a person pays any penalty charge, and any further sum by way of penalty, recoverable from him under section 122B above,
- he shall not, in a case within paragraph (a) above, be liable to pay any such penalty charge or further sum by way of penalty or, in a case within paragraph (b) above, be convicted of such an offence.
- (8) Subsection (4) of section 122A above applies for the purposes of this section as it applies for the purposes of that.

Textual Amendments

F1 Ss. 122A-122C inserted (1.11.1999 for E. and 9.2.2001 for W.) by 1999 c. 8, ss. 39(3), 67(1); S.I. 1999/2793, art. 2(1)(a), [Sch. 1](#); S.I. 2001/270, [art. 2](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

C1 Ss. 122A-122C extended (1.11.1999 for E. and 9.2.2001 for W.) by 1999 c. 8, ss. 39(3), 67(1); S.I. 1999/2793, art. 2(1)(a), [Sch. 1](#); S.I. 2001/270, [art. 2](#)

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[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

- Act modified by [2003 c. 43 Sch. 7 para. 3\(7\)](#)
- Act repealed by [2006 c. 43 Sch. 4](#)

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 3(4) inserted by [2003 c. 43 Sch. 11 para. 8](#)
- s. 3(4)(a) words substituted by [2006 c. 28 Sch. 8 para. 7\(4\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 3(4)(b) modified by [S.I. 2004/865 art. 109\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 3(4)(b) words substituted by [2006 c. 28 Sch. 8 para. 7\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 8(9)(10) added by [2006 c. 28 s. 74\(1\)](#)
- s. 11(4A)(4B) inserted by [2006 c. 28 s. 74\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 16B(4) inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 182\(1\)](#)
- s. 16BC(4) inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 182\(2\)](#)
- s. 16CA and heading inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 170](#)
- s. 16CB inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 171\(1\)](#)
- s. 16CC inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 174](#)
- s. 16CD16CE inserted by [2006 c. 28 s. 37](#)
- s. 19A(2)(aa) inserted by [2003 c. 43 Sch. 9 para. 9](#)
- s. 20A inserted by [2003 c. 4 s. 1\(1\)](#)
- s. 21(4) inserted by [S.I. 2006/1407 Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 9](#)
- s. 22(1A)(e) inserted by [2003 c. 43 Sch. 4 para. 25](#)
- s. 28D(1)(b)-(bc) substituted for s. 28D(1)(b)(c) by [2003 c. 43 s. 177\(2\)](#)
- s. 28D(1)(bc)(i) modified by [S.I. 2004/865 art. 109\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 28D(1)(bc)(iii) words substituted by [S.I. 2004/957 Sch. para. 3](#)
- s. 28D(1A) inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 177\(3\)](#)
- s. 28E(3)(ca) inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 177\(7\)](#)
- s. 28E(3A)(3B) inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 177\(8\)](#)
- s. 28E(3C) inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 177\(9\)](#)
- s. 28E(3D) inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 177\(10\)](#)
- s. 28E(3E)(3F) inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 177\(11\)](#)
- s. 28K-28P and heading inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 172\(1\)](#)
- s. 28M(4) words substituted by [S.I. 2006/1407 Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 16](#)
- s. 28Q-28W and heading(s) inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 175\(1\)](#)
- s. 28W(5) applied by [S.I. 2004/478 reg. 100\(3\)](#)
- s. 28W(5) applied by [S.I. 2004/478 Sch. 6 para. 100\(3\)](#)
- s. 28X applied (with modifications) by [S.I. 2006/552 Sch. 1 para. 4](#)
- s. 28X inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 179\(1\)](#)
- s. 28X heading words substituted by [2006 c. 28 s. 39\(5\)](#)
- s. 28X(1A) inserted by [S.I. 2006/1407 Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 17\(a\)](#)
- s. 28X(2A) inserted by [2006 c. 28 s. 39\(2\)](#)
- s. 28X(3)(b) words substituted by [2006 c. 28 s. 39\(3\)](#)
- s. 28X(3)(c) added by [S.I. 2006/1407 Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 17\(b\)](#)
- s. 28X(6A) inserted by [2006 c. 28 s. 39\(4\)](#)
- s. 28Y inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 180](#)
- s. 28Y(1) applied (with modifications) by [S.I. 2006/552 Sch. 1 para. 5](#)
- s. 28Y(1)(a) substituted by [2006 c. 28 s. 40\(2\)](#)
- s. 28Y(1)(b) words substituted by [2006 c. 28 s. 40\(3\)](#)
- s. 28Y(1)(c) added by [S.I. 2006/1407 Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 18](#)
- s. 28WA-28WF and cross-heading inserted by [2006 c. 28 s. 38](#)
- s. 29-34A repealed by [2003 c. 43 s. 175\(2\)Sch. 14 Pt. 4](#)

- s. 34A inserted by [1997 c. 46 s. 25\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). S. 25(1) repealed (1.4.2004) without ever being in force by Health and Social Care (Community Health and Standards) Act 2003 (c. 43), s. 199(1) (4), Sch. 14 Pt. 4 Note; S.I. 2004/288, art. 6(2)(p) (with art. 8) (as amended by S.I. 2004/866 and S.I. 2005/2925); S.I. 2004/480, art. 5(2)(p) (with arts. 6, 7) (as amended by S.I. 2004/1019 and S.I. 2006/345))
- s. 35(3)-(3B) substituted for s. 35(3) by [S.I. 2005/2011 Sch. 6 para. 1\(2\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment comes into force on a day to be specified in the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes (see, for example, the London Gazette, issue nos. 57734, 57975, 58050 and 58769, dated respectively 19.8.2005, 5.6.2006, 21.7.2006 and 18.7.2008))
- s. 42(2A) inserted by [2001 c. 15 s. 40\(3\)](#)
- s. 42(2B)(2C) inserted by [2006 c. 28 s. 35](#)
- s. 42A42B inserted by [2006 c. 28 s. 34\(1\)](#)
- s. 43(4)(5) added by [1997 c. 19 Sch. para. 6](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). 1997 c. 19 repealed (30.3.2007) by S.I. 2007/289, art. 1(2)(3), Sch. 1 para. 6; commencing date as notified in The Gazette, published 23.3.2007)
- s. 43A inserted by [1984 c. 48 s. 7\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). S. 7(1) repealed (1.3.2007 immediately before the National Health Service Act 2006 comes into force) without ever being in force by National Health Service (Pre - consolidation Amendments) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/1407), art. 1(1), Sch. 2 (with art. 4))
- s. 43A43B substituted by [1999 c. 8 s. 10\(1\)\(2\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). S. 10 repealed (1.3.2007) without ever being in force by National Health Service (Consequential Provisions) Act 2006 (c. 43), ss. 6, 8(2), Sch. 4 (with Sch. 2 Pt. 1))
- s. 43A43B substituted by [S.I. 2006/1407 Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 19](#)
- s. 43A(3) repealed by [1997 c. 46 Sch. 2 para. 77](#)[Sch. 3 Pt. 2](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 2 para. 77 repealed (E.W.) (1.3.2007 immediately before the National Health Service Act 2006 comes into force) without ever being in force by The National Health Service (Pre-consolidation Amendments) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/1407), art. 1(1), Sch. 2 (with art. 4))
- s. 43B added by [1984 c. 48 s. 7\(3\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). S. 7(3) repealed to the extent that it inserts section 43B of the National Health Service Act 1977 (1.3.2007 immediately before the National Health Service Act 2006 comes into force) without that amendment ever being in force by National Health Service (Pre - consolidation Amendments) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/1407), art. 1(1), Sch. 2 (with art. 4))
- s. 44(3A) inserted by [S.I. 2006/1407 Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 20\(c\)](#)
- s. 45A45B inserted by [2003 c. 43 Sch. 11 para. 23](#)
- s. 45A(3) modified by [S.I. 2004/865 art. 109\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 45A(3)(a) word repealed by [2006 c. 28 Sch. 8 para. 17\(2\)](#)[Sch. 9](#)
- s. 45A(3)(aa) inserted by [2006 c. 28 Sch. 8 para. 17\(2\)](#)
- s. 45A(4) modified by [S.I. 2004/865 art. 109\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 45A(4)(a) substituted by [2006 c. 28 Sch. 8 para. 17\(3\)](#)
- s. 45A(11) modified by [S.I. 2004/865 art. 109\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 45C inserted by [2006 c. 28 s. 41](#)
- s. 46-46C substituted for s. 46 by [1999 c. 8 s. 40\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). S. 40 repealed by 2001 c. 15, ss. 67, 70(2), Sch. 6 Pt. 1 (with ss. 64(a), 65(4)), the repeal coming into force immediately before the coming into force of the National Health Service Act 2006 (c. 41) (as to which see s. 227 of that 2006 Act) by virtue of The National Health Service (Pre-consolidation Amendments) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/1407), arts. 1(1), 2, Sch. 1 Pt. 2 para. 8(c))
- s. 54(1)(c) and word(s) inserted by [2003 c. 43 Sch. 11 para. 26\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 54(1)(c) modified by [S.I. 2004/865 art. 109\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 72(5)(d) and word(s) inserted by [2003 c. 43 Sch. 11 para. 27\(2\)](#)
- s. 72(5)(d) modified by [S.I. 2004/865 art. 109\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 72(5)(d) words substituted by [2006 c. 28 Sch. 8 para. 21\(b\)\(i\)](#)
- s. 72(5)(d) words substituted by [2006 c. 28 Sch. 8 para. 21\(b\)\(ii\)](#)

- s. 77(4) inserted by [2003 c. 43 Sch. 11 para. 28](#)
- s. 78A inserted by [1997 c. 46 s. 26\(1\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). S. 26(1) repealed (1.3.2007) without ever being in force by National Health Service (Consequential Provisions) Act 2006 (c. 43), s. 8(2), Sch. 4 (with Sch. 2 Pt. 1 Sch. 3 Pt. 1))
- s. 79(5)(b) modified by [2003 c. 43 s. 183\(4\)](#)
- s. 96(4) added by [S.I. 2006/1407 Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 27](#)
- s. 96A(12) inserted by [2003 c. 43 Sch. 4 para. 37](#)
- s. 98(1A)-(1C) inserted by [S.I. 2003/1324 Sch. 2 para. 1\(2\)](#)
- s. 98(1A) substituted by [S.I. 2004/1714 Sch. 2 para. 1\(2\)](#)
- s. 98(1A)(e) inserted by [S.I. 2006/960 Sch. 2 para. 1\(2\)](#)
- s. 98(1C) words inserted by [S.I. 2004/1714 Sch. 2 para. 1\(4\)](#)
- s. 98(1C) words substituted by [S.I. 2006/960 Sch. 2 para. 1\(4\)](#)
- s. 98(1D) inserted by [2004 c. 23 Sch. 2 para. 2](#)
- s. 98(1BA)(1BB) inserted by [S.I. 2004/1714 Sch. 2 para. 1\(3\)](#)
- s. 98(1BC) inserted by [S.I. 2006/960 Sch. 2 para. 1\(3\)](#)
- s. 98(4A) inserted by [S.I. 2003/1324 Sch. 2 para. 1\(4\)](#)
- s. 98(7)-(10) inserted by [S.I. 2005/1074 art. 2\(2\)](#)
- s. 103(4)(5) inserted by [2001 c. 15 Sch. 5 para. 5\(12\)\(c\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 5 para. 5(12)(c) repealed (1.3.2007) without ever being in force by 2006 c. 43, s. 8(2), Sch. 4 (with Sch. 2 Pt. 1, Sch. 3 Pt. 1))
- s. 124A(3)(aa) inserted by [2002 c. 38 Sch. 3 para. 20](#)
- s. 126(1A) inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 183\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 126(4A) inserted by [2001 c. 15 Sch. 5 para. 5\(13\)\(c\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Sch. 5 para. 5(13)(c) repealed (1.3.2007) without ever being in force by 2006 c. 43, s. 8(2), Sch. 4 (with Sch. 2 Pt. 1, Sch. 3 Pt. 1))
- s. 126(4A) inserted by [2003 c. 4 s. 1\(2\)](#)
- Sch. 5 para. 12B inserted by [S.I. 2006/1407 Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 39\(c\)](#)
- Sch. 5 para. 10(2A)-(2C) substituted for Sch. 5 para. 10(2A) by [S.I. 2005/2011 Sch. 6 para. 1\(4\)](#) (This amendment comes into force on a day to be specified in the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes (see, for example, the London Gazette, issue nos. 57734, 57975, 58050 and 58769, dated respectively 19.8.2005, 5.6.2006, 21.7.2006 and 18.7.2008))
- Sch. 5A para. 20(1A) inserted by [2006 c. 28 s. 74\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 5B para. 19(1A) inserted by [2006 c. 28 s. 74\(4\)](#)
- Sch. 7A inserted by [2003 c. 4 s. 1\(3\)Sch. 1](#)
- Sch. 7A para. 3(1)(fa) inserted by [2003 c. 43 Sch. 11 para. 40\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 7A para. 3(1)(g) words repealed by [2003 c. 43 Sch. 11 para. 40\(2\)\(b\)Sch. 14 Pt. 4](#)
- Sch. 7A para. 3(2) words substituted by [2003 c. 43 Sch. 11 para. 40\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 9A para. 10(a)(aa) substituted for s. Sch. 9A para. 10(a) by [2003 c. 43 Sch. 11 para. 42\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 9A para. 6(d)(i)(ii) substituted for words in para. 6(d) by [S.I. 2006/1407 Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 40\(b\)](#)
- Sch. 11 para. 5A inserted by [S.I. 2004/3363 art. 7](#)
- Sch. 12 para. 2A(6) added by [S.I. 2006/1407 Sch. 1 Pt. 1 para. 42\(g\)](#)
- Sch. 12 para. 2B amendment to earlier affecting provision 2006 c. 28, s. 41(3) by [S.I. 2006/1407 Sch. 1 Pt. 2 para. 15](#) (The earlier affecting provision cited is incorrect. The correct provision should be s. 42(3).)
- Sch. 12 para. 2B inserted by [2006 c. 28 s. 42\(3\)](#)
- Sch. 12 para. 2A(1)(b)(ba) substituted for Sch. 12 para. 2A(1)(b) by [2006 c. 28 s. 42\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Sch. 12A para. 7(4) inserted by [2001 c. 15 Sch. 5 para. 5\(17\)\(c\)](#)
- Sch. 12B inserted by [2006 c. 28 s. 56\(2\)Sch. 3](#)
- Sch. 12ZA inserted by [2003 c. 43 s. 183\(2\)](#)

Commencement Orders yet to be applied to the National Health Service Act 1977

Commencement Orders bringing legislation that affects this Act into force:

- S.I. 2003/53 art. 2-4 commences (2001 c. 15)
- S.I. 2003/713 art. 2 commences (2001 c. 15)
- S.I. 2003/833 art. 23 commences (2002 c. 17)
- S.I. 2003/2245 art. 2 commences (2001 c. 15)
- S.I. 2003/2246 art. 2 commences (2002 c. 17)
- S.I. 2003/2660 art. 2-4 commences (2003 c. 4)
- S.I. 2003/3064 art. 2 commences (2003 c. 4)
- S.I. 2003/3083 art. 2 commences (2002 c. 17)
- S.I. 2003/3346 art. 2-5 commences (2003 c. 43)
- S.I. 2004/103 art. 2-4 commences (2001 c. 15)
- S.I. 2004/287 art. 23 commences (1997 c. 46)
- S.I. 2004/288 art. 2-6 commences (2003 c. 43)
- S.I. 2004/289 art. 2 commences (1998 c. 8)
- S.I. 2004/480 art. 2-5 commences (2003 c. 43)
- S.I. 2004/759 art. 2-13 commences (2003 c. 43)
- S.I. 2004/874 art. 2 commences (2003 c. 42)
- S.I. 2004/1009 art. 2 commences (2003 c. 43)
- S.I. 2004/1019 art. 2 commences (2003 c. 43)
- S.I. 2004/1859 art. 2-6 commences (1999 c. 8)
- S.I. 2004/2626 art. 2 commences (2003 c. 43)
- S.I. 2005/457 art. 2 commences (2003 c. 43)
- S.I. 2005/558 art. 2Sch. 1 commences (2004 c. 23)
- S.I. 2005/1432 art. 2 commences (2005 c. 12)
- S.I. 2005/2213 art. 23 commences (2002 c. 38)
- S.I. 2005/2800 art. 3-5 commences (2005 c. 10)
- S.I. 2005/2897 art. 2 commences (2002 c. 38)
- S.I. 2005/2925 art. 24-11 commences (2003 c. 43)
- S.I. 2005/2926 art. 23 commences (1997 c. 46)
- S.I. 2006/345 art. 2-7 commences (2003 c. 43)
- S.I. 2006/481 art. 23 commences (2001 c. 15)
- S.I. 2006/1014 art. 2Sch. 12 commences (2005 c. 4)
- S.I. 2006/1407 Sch. 1 Pt. 2 para. 3681213 commences (1997 c. 46)
- S.I. 2006/2603 art. 2-5 commences (2006 c. 28)
- S.I. 2006/3125 art. 2-4 commences (2006 c. 28)
- S.I. 2007/204 art. 2-4 commences (2006 c. 28)
- S.I. 2008/1972 art. 2 commences (2006 c. 28)