EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations which apply to England amend the National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Regulations 2000 ("the Charges Regulations") and the National Health Service (Travel Expenses and Remission of Charges) Regulations 2003 ("the Travel Expenses and Remission of Charges Regulations").

Regulation 2 inserts regulation 7D in the Charges Regulations to provide for the free provision of pharmaceutical services, local pharmaceutical services and dispensing services on the presentation of a prescription form which has been provided and issued under the provisions which apply in Northern Ireland.

Regulation 3 updates-

- (a) references to student funding regulations in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. These set out the entitlement to grants and loans available to students. Certain of the amounts of student maintenance grants are disregarded in calculating the entitlement of students to the payment of travel expenses and the remission of charges under the Travel Expenses and Remission of Charges Regulations, , and
- (b) the reference to the publication which describes additional loans paid under the Education (Student Loans) (Scotland) Regulations 2007. These loans are disregarded in the calculation of a student's loan income when a person's entitlement to the payment of NHS travel expenses and the remission of NHS charges is being established under the Travel Expenses and Remission of Charges Regulations.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no impact on the private and voluntary sectors is foreseen.