

---

STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

---

**2005 No. 174**

**The Independent Health Care  
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005**

**PART III**

**CONDUCT OF HEALTH CARE ESTABLISHMENTS AND AGENCIES**

*NOTICES TO BE GIVEN TO THE REGULATION AND IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY*

**Notification of deaths and other events**

**28.**—(1) The registered person shall give notice to the Regulation and Improvement Authority of—

- (a) the death of a patient –
  - (i) in an establishment;
  - (ii) during treatment provided by an establishment or agency; or
  - (iii) as a consequence of treatment provided by an establishment or agency within the period of seven days ending on the date of the death, and the circumstances of his death;
- (b) any serious injury to a patient;
- (c) the outbreak in an establishment of any infectious disease, which in the opinion of any medical practitioner employed in the establishment is sufficiently serious to be so notified;
- (d) any event in the establishment or agency which adversely affects the well-being or safety of any patient;
- (e) any allegation of misconduct resulting in actual or potential harm to a patient by the registered person, any person employed in or for the purposes of the establishment or for the purposes of the agency, or any medical practitioner with practising privileges;
- (f) any theft, burglary or accident in the establishment or agency.

(2) Notice under paragraph (1) shall be given within the period of 24 hours beginning with the event in question and, if given orally, shall be confirmed in writing as soon as practicable.

**Notice of absence**

**29.**—(1) Where—

- (a) the registered provider, if he is the person in day-to-day charge of the establishment or agency; or
- (b) the registered manager,

proposes to be absent from the establishment or agency for a continuous period of 28 days or more, the registered person shall give notice in writing to the Regulation and Improvement Authority of the proposed absence.

(2) Except in the case of an emergency, the notice referred to in paragraph (1) shall be given no later than one month before the proposed absence commences or within such shorter period as may be agreed with the Regulation and Improvement Authority and the notice shall specify with respect to the proposed absence –

- (a) its length or expected length;
- (b) the reason for it;
- (c) the arrangements which have been made for running the establishment or agency;
- (d) the name, address and qualifications of the person who will be responsible for the establishment or agency during that absence; and
- (e) in the case of the absence of the registered manager, the arrangements that have been, or are proposed to be, made for appointing another person to manage the establishment or agency during that absence, including the proposed date by which the appoint is to be made.

(3) Where the absence arises as a result of an emergency, the registered person shall give notice of the absence within one week of its occurrence specifying the matters set out in sub-paragraphs (a) to (e) of paragraph (2).

(4) Where –

- (a) the registered provider, if he is the person in day-to-day charge of the establishment or agency; or
- (b) the registered manager;

has been absent from the establishment or agency for a continuous period of 28 days or more, and the Regulation and Improvement Authority has not been given notice of the absence, the registered person, shall, without delay, give notice in writing to the Regulation and Improvement Authority of the absence, specifying the matters set out in paragraph (2)(a) to (e).

(5) The registered person shall notify the Regulation and Improvement Authority of the return to duty of the registered provider or (as the case may be) the registered manager not later than 7 days after the date of his return.

### **Notice of changes**

**30.** The registered person shall give notice in writing to the Regulation and Improvement Authority as soon as it is practicable to do so if any of the following events take place or are proposed to take place –

- (a) a person other than the registered person carries on or manages the establishment or agency;
- (b) a person ceases to carry on or manage the establishment or agency;
- (c) where the registered provider is an individual, he changes his name;
- (d) where the registered provider is a partnership, there is any change in the membership of the partnership;
- (e) where the registered provider is an organisation –
  - (i) the name or address of the organisation is changed;
  - (ii) there is any change of director, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the organisation;
  - (iii) there is any change in the identity of the responsible individual;

- (f) where the registered provider is an individual, a trustee in bankruptcy is appointed;
- (g) where the registered provider is a company or partnership, a receiver, manager, liquidator or provisional liquidator is appointed; or
- (h) the premises of the establishment or agency are significantly altered or extended, or additional premises are acquired.

### **Appointment of liquidators etc**

- 31.**—(1) Any person to whom paragraph (2) applies must –
- (a) forthwith notify the Regulation and Improvement Authority of his appointment indicating the reasons for it;
  - (b) appoint a manager to take full-time day-to-day charge of the establishment or agency in any case where there is no registered manager; and
  - (c) before the end of the period of 28 days beginning on the date of his appointment, notify the Regulation and Improvement Authority of his intentions regarding the future operation of the establishment or agency.
- (2) This paragraph applies to any person appointed as –
- (a) the receiver or manager of the property of a company or partnership which is a registered provider of an establishment or agency;
  - (b) liquidator or provisional liquidator of a company which is the registered provider of an establishment or agency;
  - (c) the trustee in bankruptcy of a registered provider of an establishment or agency.

### **Death of registered person**

**32.**—(1) If more than one person is registered in respect of an establishment or agency, and a registered person dies, the surviving registered person shall without delay notify the Regulation and Improvement Authority of the death in writing.

(2) If only one person is registered in respect of an establishment or agency, and he dies, his personal representatives must notify the Regulation and Improvement Authority in writing –

- (a) without delay of the death; and
- (b) within 28 days of their intentions regarding the future running of the establishment or agency.

(3) The personal representatives of the deceased registered provider may carry on the establishment or agency without being registered in respect of it –

- (a) for a period not exceeding 28 days; and
- (b) for any further period as may be determined in accordance with paragraph (4).

(4) The Regulation and Improvement Authority may extend the period specified in paragraph (3) (a) by such further period, not exceeding one year, as the Regulation and Improvement Authority shall determine, and shall notify any such determination to the personal representatives in writing.

(5) The personal representatives shall appoint a person to take full-time day-to-day charge of the establishment or agency during any period in which, in accordance with paragraph (3), they carry on the establishment or agency without being registered in respect of it.