
SCOTTISH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2003 No. 443

**The National Health Service (General Medical Services)
(Scotland) Amendment (No. 3) Regulations 2003**

PART III

OTHER AMENDMENTS

Other Amendments to Schedule 1 to the principal Regulations

5. After paragraph 20A(1) of Schedule 1 to the principal Regulations insert—

“**20B.**—(1) After 10th October 2003, subject to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3), a doctor shall not engage as a deputy, or employ as an assistant, any doctor unless—

- (a) the deputy or assistant has provided two clinical references, relating to two recent posts (which may include any current post) as a doctor which lasted for at least three months without a significant break, or where this is not possible, a full explanation and alternative referees; and
- (b) the doctor has checked and is satisfied with the doctor’s references.

(2) Where a doctor is urgently needed as a deputy, and it is not possible to obtain and check the references in accordance with paragraph (1)(b) before engaging him, he may be engaged on a temporary basis for a single period of up to 14 days whilst his references are checked and considered, and for an additional single period of a further seven days if the doctor believes the person supplying those references is ill, on holiday or otherwise temporarily unavailable.

(3) Where a doctor uses the same doctor as a deputy on more than one occasion within a period of three months, he may rely on the references provided on the first occasion, provided that those references are not more than twelve months old.”