

1976 No. 690

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, ENGLAND AND
WALES**The National Health Service (General Medical and Pharmaceutical
Services) Amendment Regulations 1976**

<i>Made</i> - - - -	6th May 1976
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>	7th May 1976
<i>Coming into Operation</i>	1st June 1976

The Secretary of State for Social Services in exercise of powers conferred by section 38(1) and section 38(2) of the National Health Service Act 1946(a) as amended by section 42 of the National Health Service Reorganisation Act 1973(b) and now vested in him(c) and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:—

Citation and Commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the National Health Service (General Medical and Pharmaceutical Services) Amendment Regulations 1976 and shall come into operation on 1st June 1976.

Amendment of Regulations

2. In Schedule 4 to the National Health Service (General Medical and Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 1974(d) as amended(e) after paragraph 2(1) there shall be inserted the following sub-paragraphs:—

“(1A) Where an order, not being an order to which the Poisons Rules 1972(f) or the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 1973(g) apply, issued by a doctor or a dentist on a prescription form for drugs, listed drugs or medicines does not prescribe the quantity, strength or dosage thereof, a chemist may supply such strength and dosage of drugs, listed drugs or medicines so ordered as in the exercise of his professional skill, knowledge and care he shall consider to be appropriate, and, subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (1B), in such quantity as he so considers to be appropriate for a course of treatment of the patient to whom the order relates, for a period not exceeding five days.

(a) 1946 c. 81.

(b) 1973 c. 32.

(c) See Secretary of State for Social Services Order 1968 (S.I. 1968/1699; (1968 III, p. 4585)) Article 2.

(d) S.I. 1974/160 (1974 I, p. 490).

(e) S.I. 1975/719 (1975 I, p. 2589).

(f) S.I. 1972/1939 (1972 III, p. 5750).

(g) S.I. 1973/797 (1973 I, p. 2549).

(1B) Where an order to which sub-paragraph (1A) applies is for—

- (a) an oral contraceptive, or
- (b) a drug, listed drug or medicine which is available for supply as part of pharmaceutical services only together with one or more drugs, listed drugs or medicines, or
- (c) an antibiotic in a liquid form for oral administration in respect of which pharmaceutical considerations require supply in an unopened package,

which is not available for supply as part of pharmaceutical services except in such packages that the minimum available package contains a quantity appropriate to a course of treatment for a patient for a period more than five days, the chemist may supply for the patient to whom the order relates, such minimum available package.”.

David Ennals,

Secretary of State for Social Services.

6th May 1976.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations enable a chemist to dispense drugs, listed drugs and medicines for up to a five day course of treatment when a doctor or dentist has not set out the full prescription. In the exceptional cases listed in sub-paragraph (1B), where the normal minimum packaging is not appropriate to a five day course of treatment, the chemist is permitted to supply the normal minimum package.

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