
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1972 No. 1265

**Health and Personal Social Services
(Northern Ireland) Order 1972**

PART VI

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

[^{F1} General medical services contracts

[^{F1} Persons eligible to enter into general medical services contracts

57B.—(1) [^{F2}The Department] may, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed, enter into a general medical services contract with—

- (a) a medical practitioner;
- (b) two or more individuals practising in partnership where the conditions in paragraph (2) are satisfied; or
- (c) a company limited by shares where the conditions in paragraph (3) are satisfied.

(2) The conditions referred to in paragraph (1)(b) in relation to a partnership are that—

- (a) at least one partner is a medical practitioner; and
- (b) any partner who is not a medical practitioner is either—
 - (i) an [^{F3}HSC employee];
 - (ii) an Article 15B employee, a section 28C employee or a section 17C employee;
 - (iii) a health care professional who is engaged in the provision of services under this Order; or
 - (iv) an individual falling within Article 15C(1)(b)(iii).

(3) The conditions referred to in paragraph (1)(c) in relation to a company are that—

- (a) at least one share in the company is legally and beneficially owned by a medical practitioner; and
- (b) any share which is not so owned is legally and beneficially owned by a person referred to in paragraph (2)(b)(i) to (iv).

(4) Regulations may make provision as to the effect, in relation to a general medical services contract entered into by individuals practising in partnership, of a change in the membership of the partnership.

(5) In this Article—

“health care professional” has the same meaning as in Article 15C;

“ [^{F3}HSC employee]”, “Article 15B employee”, “section 28C employee” and “section 17C employee” have the same meaning as in Article 15C.]

Changes to legislation: *Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972, Section 57B is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 16 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

- F1** 2004 NI 2
- F2** Words in art. 57B(1) substituted (1.4.2022) by Health and Social Care Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 (c. 3), s. 8(1)(b), **Sch. 1 para. 24**; S.R. 2022/102, art. 2(b)
- F3** Words in Order substituted (1.4.2009) by Health and Social Care (Reform) Act (Northern Ireland) 2009 (c. 1), s. 34(3), **Sch. 6 para. 1(1)(f)**; S.R. 2009/114, **art. 2**

Changes to legislation:

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[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- Instrument amended by [1995 c. 51 s.4Sch. para.30](#)

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

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

- art. 56(4C)(4D) substituted by [S.I. 2002/3135 Sch. 1 para. 16](#) (This amendment has not been applied as it has been superceded by the substitution of art. 56 by 2004/311 NI 2 art. 3)
- art. 61-61E and art. 61F and cross-heading substituted for art. 61 by [2008 c. 2 \(N.I.\) s. 2\(2\)](#) (This amending provision is itself amended (13.6.2016) before it comes into force by 2016 c. 26 (N.I.), ss. 9, 20(2))
- art. 98(3) added by [2008 c. 2 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(1\)](#)
- art. 107(1A) inserted by [2008 c. 2 \(N.I.\) s. 4\(4\)\(b\)](#)