
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations further amend the Pharmaceutical Services Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 (“the principal regulations”), which govern the arrangements to be made by Health and Social Services Boards for the provision in their area of pharmaceutical services under the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 (“the 1972 Order”).

Regulation 2(2)(a) inserts definitions in the principal regulations. Regulation 2(2)(b) inserts a new definition of “prescription form” to include forms issued by a Health Authority in England and Wales and by a Health Board in Scotland, and issued by a doctor or dentist or a nurse prescriber. Regulation 2(2)(c) ensures that the specified description of a nurse or health visitor mentioned in the definition of “nurse prescriber” may include a nurse assisting in the performance of personal medical services under a pilot scheme under the Health Services (Primary Care) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

Regulation 2(3) enables a chemist who doubts the authenticity of a prescription form presented to him and who acts as specified to claim payment in the manner specified.

Regulation 2(4) requires a chemist to ask a person presenting an order for drugs and appliances under paragraph 2(1) of the chemists' terms of service to provide specified evidence to substantiate specific claims relating to exemptions from or remission of charges due under the Charges for Drugs and Appliances Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 and regulation 2(5) places similar requirements on doctors authorised to provide pharmaceutical services to a patient under regulation 12.