

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

SCHEDULE 1

Regulation 15

[^{F1}NHS England's]NHS England's]List of prescribed medical certificates

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

<i>Description of medical certificate</i>	<i>Enactment under or for the purposes of which certificate is required</i>
<p>1. To support a claim or to obtain a payment either personally or by proxy; to prove incapacity to work or for self-support for the purposes of an award by the Secretary of State; or to enable proxy to draw pensions etc.</p>	<p>Naval and Marine Pay and Pensions Act 1865 ^{M1} Air Force (Constitution) Act 1917 ^{M2} Pensions (Navy, Army, Air Force and Mercantile Marine) Act 1939 ^{M3} Personal Injuries (Emergency Provisions) Act 1939 ^{M4} Social Security Administration Act 1992 ^{M5} Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 ^{M6} Social Security Act 1998 ^{M7}</p>
<p>F2</p> <p>...</p>	<p>F3</p> <p>...</p>
<p>3. To secure registration of still-birth</p>	<p>Section 11 of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953 ^{M8} (special provision as to registration of still-birth)</p>
<p>4. To enable payment to be made from an institution or other person in case of mental disorder of persons entitled to payment from public funds</p>	<p>Section 142 of the Mental Health Act 1983 ^{M9} (pay, pensions etc. of mentally disordered persons)</p>
<p>5. To establish unfitness for jury service</p>	<p>Juries Act 1974 ^{M10}</p>
<p>6. To support late application for reinstatement in civil employment or notification on non-availability to take up employment owing to sickness</p>	<p>Reserve Forces (Safeguard of Employment) Act 1985 ^{M11}</p>
<p>7. To enable a person to be registered as an absent voter on grounds of physical incapacity</p>	<p>Representation of the People Act 1985 ^{M12}</p>
<p>8. To support applications for certificates conferring exemption from charges in respect of drugs, medicines and appliances</p>	<p>National Health Service Act 2006 ^{M13}</p>

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9. To support a claim by or on behalf Local Government and Finance Act 1992 of a severely mentally impaired person for ^{M14} exemption from liability to pay the Council Tax or eligibility for a discount of the amount of Council Tax payable

Textual Amendments

- F2** Words in Sch. 1 omitted (6.4.2020) by virtue of [The Healthy Start Scheme and Welfare Food \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/267\)](#), regs. 1(2), **30(a)**
- F3** Words in Sch. 1 omitted (6.4.2020) by virtue of [The Healthy Start Scheme and Welfare Food \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/267\)](#), regs. 1(2), **30(b)**

Marginal Citations

- M1** 1865 c.45. Section 3, which makes provision for the payment of naval and marine pay and pensions by Order in Council, was amended by section 4 of the [Armed Forces \(Pensions and Compensations\) Act 2004 \(c. 32\)](#) and by section 378(1) of, and Schedule 16 to, the [Armed Forces Act 2006 \(c 52\)](#).
- M2** 1917 c.51.
- M3** 1939 c.83.
- M4** 1939 c.82.
- M5** 1992 c.5.
- M6** 1992 c.4.
- M7** 1998 c.14.
- M8** 1953 c.20. Section 11 was amended by section 2 of the [Population \(Statistics\) Act 1960 \(c.32\)](#), [section 23\(4\)](#) of the [Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Act 1979 \(c.36\)](#), and by S.I. 1968/1242, S.I. 1968/1242 and S.I. 1996/2395.
- M9** 1983 c.20. Section 142 of the [Mental Health Act 1983](#) was repealed by section 67 of the [Mental Capacity Act 2005 \(c.5\)](#). See paragraph 29 of Schedule 26 to the [Mental Capacity Act 2005](#) which enables payments made under section 142 before the date on which it was revoked to continue to be made.
- M10** 1974 c.23.
- M11** 1985 c.17.
- M12** 1985 c.50.
- M13** 2006 c.41.
- M14** 1992 c.14.

SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 27

Other required terms

PART 1

Provision of services

Services to registered patients

1. Where the agreement provides for a contractor to provide essential services, the contractor must—

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- (a) provide those services, and such other services that the contractor is required to provide to its patients, at such times, within core hours, as are appropriate to meet the reasonable needs of those patients; and
- (b) have in place arrangements for the contractor's patients to access such services throughout the core hours in case of emergency.

Premises

2.—(1) The contractor must ensure that the premises used for the provision of services under the agreement are—

- (a) suitable for the delivery of those services; and
- (b) sufficient to meet the reasonable needs of the contractor's patients.

(2) The requirement in sub-paragraph (1) is subject to any plan included in the agreement which sets out steps to be taken by the contractor to bring the premises up to the required standard.

Telephone services

3.—(1) The contractor must not be a party to a contract or other arrangement under which the number for telephone services to be used by—

- (a) patients to contact the contractor's practice for a purpose related to the agreement; or
- (b) any other person to contact the contractor's practice in relation to services provided at the contractor's practice as part of the health service,

starts with the digits 087, 090 or 091 or consists of a personal number, unless the service is provided free of charge to the caller.

(2) In this paragraph, “personal number” means a telephone number which starts with 070 followed by a further eight digits.

[^{F4}New telephone contract or arrangement

3A. The contractor must ensure that any new contract or other arrangement relating to telephone services used by—

- (a) patients to contact the contractor’s practice for a purpose related to the agreement; or
- (b) any other person to contact the contractor’s practice in relation to services provided as part of the health service,

is with a supplier specified in the Advanced Telephony Better Purchasing framework.]

Textual Amendments

F4 Sch. 2 para. 3A inserted (15.5.2023) by The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/449), reg. 1(2)(b), Sch. 2 para. 9

Cost of relevant calls

4.—(1) The contractor must not enter into, renew or extend a contract or other arrangement for telephone services unless it is satisfied that, having regard to the arrangement as a whole, persons will not have to pay more to make relevant calls to the contractor's practice than they would to make equivalent calls to a geographical number.

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(2) Where it has not been possible for the contractor to take reasonable steps to ensure that persons will not pay more to make relevant calls to the contractor's practice than they would to make equivalent calls to a geographical number, the contractor must consider introducing a system under which, if a caller asks to be called back, the contractor will do so at the contractor's own expense.

(3) In this paragraph—

“geographical number” means a number which has a geographical area code as its prefix; and
“relevant calls” means—

- (a) calls made by patients to the contractor's practice for any reason related to services provided at the contractor's practice under the agreement; and
- (b) calls made by persons, other than patients, to the contractor's practice in relation to services provided at the contractor's practice as part of the health service.

[^{F5}Attendance at practice premises

5.—(1) The contractor must take steps to ensure that a patient who contacts the contractor—

- (a) by attendance at the contractor's practice premises;
- (b) by telephone;
- (c) through the practice's online consultation tool within the meaning given in regulation 64ZD(2); or
- (d) through a relevant electronic communication method within the meaning given in regulation 64ZE(3),

is provided with an appropriate response in accordance with the following sub-paragraphs.

(2) The appropriate response is that the contractor must—

- (a) invite the patient for an appointment, either to attend the contractor's practice premises or to participate in a telephone or video consultation, at a time which is appropriate and reasonable having regard to all the circumstances ^{F6}...;
- (b) provide appropriate advice or care to the patient by another method;
- (c) invite the patient to make use of, or direct the patient towards, appropriate services which are available to the patient, including services which the patient may access themselves; or
- (d) communicate with the patient—
 - (i) to request further information; or
 - (ii) as to when and how the patient will receive further information on the services that may be provided to them, having regard to the urgency of their clinical needs and other relevant circumstances.

(3) The appropriate response must be provided—

- (a) if the contact under sub-paragraph (1) is made outside core hours, during the following core hours;
- (b) in any other case, during the day on which the core hours fall.

(4) The appropriate response must take into account—

- (a) the needs of the patient [^{F7}, including the need to avoid jeopardising the patient's health];
- (b) where appropriate, the preferences of the patient [^{F8}; and]

[^{F9}(c) any benefits to the patient of providing for continuity of the health care professional involved in their care and treatment.]]

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Textual Amendments

- F5** Sch. 2 para. 5 substituted (15.5.2023) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023](#) (S.I. 2023/449), reg. 1(2)(b), **Sch. 2 para. 10**
- F6** Words in Sch. 2 para. 5(2)(a) omitted (27.5.2024) by virtue of [The National Health Service \(Primary Medical Services and Performers Lists\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2024](#) (S.I. 2024/575), reg. 1(2)(a), **Sch. 2 para. 8(a)**
- F7** Words in Sch. 2 para. 5(4)(a) substituted (27.5.2024) by virtue of [The National Health Service \(Primary Medical Services and Performers Lists\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2024](#) (S.I. 2024/575), reg. 1(2)(a), **Sch. 2 para. 8(b)(i)**
- F8** Word in Sch. 2 para. 5(4)(b) inserted (27.5.2024) by [The National Health Service \(Primary Medical Services and Performers Lists\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2024](#) (S.I. 2024/575), reg. 1(2)(a), **Sch. 2 para. 8(b)(ii)**
- F9** Sch. 2 para. 5(4)(c) inserted (27.5.2024) by [The National Health Service \(Primary Medical Services and Performers Lists\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2024](#) (S.I. 2024/575), reg. 1(2)(a), **Sch. 2 para. 8(b)(iii)**

Attendance outside practice premises

6.—(1) Where the medical condition of a patient is such that, in the reasonable opinion of the contractor—

- (a) attendance on the patient is required; and
- (b) it would be inappropriate for the patient to attend the contractor's practice premises,

the contractor must provide services to the patient at whichever of the places described in sub-paragraph (2) is, in the contractor's judgement, the most appropriate.

(2) The places described in this sub-paragraph are—

- (a) the place recorded in the patient's medical records as being the patient's last home address;
- (b) such other place as the contractor has informed the patient and [F1NHS England] is the place where the contractor has agreed to visit and treat the patient; or
- (c) another place in the contractor's practice area.

(3) Nothing in this paragraph prevents the contractor from—

- (a) arranging for the referral of a patient without first seeing the patient, in any case where the patient's medical condition makes that course of action appropriate; or
- (b) visiting the patient in circumstances where this paragraph does not place the contractor under an obligation to do so.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023](#) (S.I. 2023/1071), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Clinical reports

7.—(1) Where the contractor provides clinical services, other than under a private arrangement, to a patient who is not on its list of patients, the contractor must, as soon as reasonably practicable, provide to [F1NHS England] a clinical report relating to that consultation and any treatment provided to the patient.

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- (2) [^{F1}NHS England] must send a report received in accordance with sub-paragraph (1) to—
- (a) to the person with whom the patient is registered for the provision of essential services (or their equivalent); or
 - (b) if the person referred to in paragraph (a) is not known to [^{F1}NHS England], or to the Local Health Board, Health Board or Health and Social Services Board, in whose area the patient is resident.

(3) This paragraph does not apply in relation to the provision of out of hours services by a contractor which is, by virtue of regulation 22, required to comply with the quality standards or requirements referred to in that regulation.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Storage of vaccines

8. The contractor must ensure that all—
- (a) vaccines are stored in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions; and
 - (b) refrigerators in which vaccines are stored have a maximum/minimum thermometer and that temperature readings are taken on all working days.

Infection control

9. The contractor must ensure that it has appropriate arrangements in place for infection control and decontamination.

Duty of co-operation

10.—(1) Where a contractor does not provide to its registered patients or to persons whom it has accepted as temporary residents—

- (a) a particular service [^{F10}, except in relation to one provided under the Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service Scheme which is a scheme provided for by direction 5 of the Primary Medical Services (Directed Enhanced Services) Directions 2019]; or
- (b) out of hours services, either at all or in respect of some periods or some services,

the contractor must comply with the requirements specified in sub-paragraph (2).

- (2) The requirements specified in this sub-paragraph are that the contractor must—
- (a) co-operate in so far as is reasonable with any person responsible for the provision of that service or those services;
 - (b) comply in core hours with any reasonable request for information from such a person or from [^{F11}NHS England] relating to the provision of that service or those services; and
 - (c) in the case of out of hours services—
 - (i) take reasonable steps to ensure that any patient who contacts the contractor's practice ^{F11}... during the out of hours period is provided with information about how to obtain services during that period;
 - (ii) ensure that the clinical details of all out of hours consultations received from the out of hours provider are reviewed by a clinician within the contractor's practice on the

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same working day as those details are received by the practice or, exceptionally, on the next working day;

- (iii) ensure that any information requests received from the out of hours provider in respect of any out of hours consultations are responded to by a clinician within the contractor's practice on the same day as those requests are received by the practice, or on the next working day;
- (iv) take all reasonable steps to comply with any systems which the out of hours provider has in place to ensure the rapid, secure and effective transmission of patient data in respect of out of hours consultations; and
- (v) agree with the out of hours provider a system for the rapid, secure and effective transmission of information about registered patients who, due to chronic disease or terminal illness, are predicted as more likely to present themselves for treatment during the out of hours period.

(3) Nothing in this paragraph requires a contractor whose agreement does not include the provision of out of hours services to make itself available during the out of hours period.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F10** Words in Sch. 2 para. 10(1)(a) inserted (1.10.2019) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1137\)](#), regs. 1(2), **27**
- F11** Word in Sch. 2 para. 10(2)(c)(i) omitted (1.10.2022) by virtue of [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 3\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/935\)](#), reg. 1(b), **Sch. 2 para. 7(2)**

[^{F12}Duty of co-operation: Primary Care Networks

- 10A.—**(1) A contractor must comply with the requirements in sub-paragraph (2) where it is—
- (a) signed up to the Network Contract Directed Enhanced Scheme (“the Scheme”); or
 - (b) not signed up to the Scheme but its registered patients or temporary residents, are provided with services under the Scheme (“the services”) by a contractor which is a member of a primary care network.
- (2) The requirements specified in this sub-paragraph are that the contractor must—
- (a) co-operate, in so far as is reasonable, with any person responsible for the provision of the services;
 - (b) comply in core hours with any reasonable request for information from such a person or from [^{F1}NHS England] relating to the provision of the services;
 - (c) have due regard to guidance published by [^{F1}NHS England];
 - (d) participate in primary care network meetings, in so far as is reasonable;
 - (e) take reasonable steps to provide information to its registered patients about the services, including information on how to access the services and any changes to them; and
 - (f) ensure that it has in place suitable arrangements to enable the sharing of data to support the delivery of the services, business administration and analysis activities.

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(3) For the purposes of this paragraph, “primary care network” means a network of contractors and other providers of services which has been approved by [^{F1}NHS England], serving an identified geographical area ^{F13} ...]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F12** Sch. 2 para. 10A inserted (1.10.2019) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1137\)](#), regs. 1(2), **28**
- F13** Words in Sch. 2 para. 10A(3) omitted (E.) (1.10.2020) by virtue of [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 5**

[^{F14}Duty to have regard to Armed Forces Covenant principles

10B. When providing services under the agreement, the contractor must have due regard to the principles contained in section 343AA(1)(a) to (c) of the Armed Forces Act 2006 in relation to its patients and prospective patients.]

Textual Amendments

- F14** Sch. 2 para. 10B and cross-heading inserted (27.5.2024) by [The National Health Service \(Primary Medical Services and Performers Lists\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2024 \(S.I. 2024/575\)](#), reg. 1(2)(a), **Sch. 2 para. 9**

Cessation of service provision: information requests

11. Where a contractor is to cease to be required to provide to its patients—

- (a) a particular service; or
- (b) out of hours services, either at all or in respect of some periods or some services,

the contractor must comply with any reasonable request for information relating to the provision of that service or those services made by [^{F1}NHS England] or by any person with whom [^{F1}NHS England] intends to enter into an agreement for the provision of such services.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

PART 2

Patients: general

General provision

12. This Part only applies to a contractor which provides essential services.

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List of patients

[^{F15}13.—(1) [^{F1}NHS England] must prepare and keep up to date a list of the patients who have been—

- (a) accepted by the contractor for inclusion in the contractor’s list of patients under [^{F16}17, 18, 18A, 31D or 31F] and who have not been subsequently removed from that list under paragraphs 22 to 30; and
 - (b) assigned by [^{F1}NHS England] to the Contractor’s list of patients under—
 - (i) paragraph 38(1)(a), or
 - (ii) paragraph 38(1)(b) (by virtue of a determination of the assessment panel under paragraph 40(8) which has not subsequently been overturned by a determination of the Secretary of State under paragraph 41 or by a court).
- (2) The contractor must, upon receipt of a reasonable written request by [^{F1}NHS England]—
- (a) take appropriate steps as soon as is reasonably practicable to correct and update patient data held on the practice’s computerised clinical systems, and where necessary register or deregister patients to ensure that the patient list is accurate; and
 - (b) provide information relating to its list of patients as soon as is reasonably practicable and, in any event, no later than 30 days from the date on which the request was received by the contractor, in order to assist [^{F1}NHS England] in the exercise of its duties under paragraph (1), contacting patients where reasonably necessary to confirm that their patient data is correct.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F15** Sch. 2 para. 13 substituted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 6**
- F16** Words in Sch. 2 para. 13(1) substituted (1.10.2021) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/995\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 3(a)**

Newly registered patients – alcohol dependency screening

- 14.—(1) Where a patient has been—
- (a) accepted onto the contractor's list of patients; or
 - (b) assigned to that list by [^{F1}NHS England],

the contractor must take action to identify any such patient over the age of 16 who is drinking alcohol at increasing or higher risk levels with a view to seeking to reduce the alcohol related health risks to that patient.

(2) The contractor must comply with the requirement in sub-paragraph (1) by screening the patient using either one of the two shortened versions of the World Health Organisation Alcohol Use Disorders Identification (“AUDIT”) questionnaires ^{M15} which are known as—

- (a) FAST (which has four questions); or
- (b) AUDIT-C (which has three questions).

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(3) Where, under sub-paragraph (2), the contractor identifies a patient as positive using either of the shortened versions of the AUDIT questionnaire specified in sub-paragraph (2), the remaining questions of the full ten question AUDIT questionnaire must be used by the contractor to determine increasing risk, higher risk or likely dependent drinking.

(4) Where a patient is identified as drinking at increasing or higher risk levels, the contractor must—

- (a) offer the patient appropriate advice and lifestyle counselling;
- (b) respond to any other need identified in the patient which relates to the patient's levels of drinking, including by providing any additional support or treatment required for people with mental health issues; and
- (c) in any case where the patient is identified as a dependent drinker, offer the patient a referral to such specialist services as are considered clinically appropriate to meet the needs of the patient.

(5) Where a patient is identified as drinking at increasing or higher risk levels or as a dependent drinker, the contractor must ensure that the patient is—

- (a) assessed for anxiety and depression;
- (b) offered screening for anxiety or depression; and
- (c) where anxiety or depression is diagnosed, provided with any treatment and support which may be required under the agreement, including a referral for specialist mental health treatment.

(6) The contractor must make relevant entries, including the results of the completed questionnaire referred to in sub-paragraph (2), in the patient's record that the contractor is required to keep under regulation 60.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Marginal Citations

- M15** The World Health Organisation Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) questionnaire can be accessed at http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/activities/sbi/en/. Further information about the Test, and the questionnaires themselves, is available in hard copy form from NHS England, PO Box 16738, Redditch, BP97 7PT.

[^{F17}Patients living with frailty

14A.—(1) A contractor must take steps [^{F18}each year] to identify any registered patient aged 65 years and over who is living with moderate to severe frailty.

(2) The contractor must comply with the requirement in sub-paragraph (1) by using the Electronic Frailty Index or any other appropriate assessment tool.

(3) Where the contractor identifies a patient aged 65 years or over who is living with severe frailty, the contractor must—

- (a) undertake a clinical review in respect of the patient which includes—
 - (i) an annual review of the patient's medication, and
 - (ii) where appropriate, a discussion with the patient about whether the patient has fallen in the last 12 months;

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- (b) provide the patient with any other clinically appropriate interventions; and
 - (c) where the patient does not have an enriched Summary Care Record, advise the patient about the benefits of having an enriched Summary Care Record and activate that record at the patient's request.
- (4) A contractor must, using codes agreed by [^{F1}NHS England] for this purpose, record in the patient's Summary Care Record any appropriate information relating to clinical interventions provided to a patient under this paragraph.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F17** Sch. 2 para. 14A inserted (6.10.2017) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2017 \(S.I. 2017/908\)](#), regs. 1(2), 7
- F18** Words in Sch. 2 para. 14A(1) inserted (1.10.2018) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018 \(S.I. 2018/844\)](#), regs. 1(2), **13**

Accountable GP

15.—(1) A contractor must ensure that for each of its registered patients (including those patients under the age of 16) there is assigned an accountable general medical practitioner (“accountable GP”).

(2) The accountable GP must take lead responsibility for ensuring that any services which the contractor is required to provide under the agreement are, to the extent that their provision is considered necessary to meet the needs of the patient, coordinated and delivered to the patient.

(3) The contractor must—

- (a) inform the patient, as soon as is reasonably practicable and in such manner as is considered appropriate by the contractor's practice, of the assignment to the patient of an accountable GP and must state the name and contact details of the accountable GP and the role and responsibilities of the accountable GP in respect of the patient;
- (b) inform the patient as soon as any circumstances arise in which the accountable GP is not able, for any significant period, to carry out the duties of an accountable GP in respect of the patient; and
- (c) where the contractor's practice considers it to be necessary, assign a replacement accountable GP to the patient and inform the patient accordingly.

(4) The contractor must comply with the requirement in sub-paragraph (3)(a) in the case of any person who is accepted by the contractor as a registered patient on or after the date on which these Regulations come into force, within 21 days from the date on which that person was so accepted.

(5) The requirement in this paragraph does not apply to—

- (a) any patient of the contractor who is aged 75 or over, or who attains the age of 75, on or after the date on which these Regulations come into force; or
- (b) any other patient of the contractor if the contractor has been informed that the patient does not wish to have an accountable GP.

(6) Where, under sub-paragraph (3)(a), the contractor informs a patient of the assignment to them of an accountable GP, the patient may express a preference as to which general medical practitioner within the contractor's practice the patient would like to have as the patient's accountable

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

GP and, where such a preference has been expressed, the contractor must make reasonable efforts to accommodate the request.

(7) Where, under sub-paragraph (5)(b), the contractor has been informed by or in relation to a patient that the patient does not wish to have an accountable GP, the contractor must record that fact in the patient's record that the contractor is required to keep under regulation 60.

(8) The contractor must ^{F19}... include information about the requirement to assign an accountable GP to each of its new and existing registered patients—

- (a) on the contractor's practice website [^{F20}or online practice profile]; and
- (b) in the contractor's practice leaflet.

^{F21}(9)

Textual Amendments

- F19** Words in Sch. 2 para. 15(8) omitted (1.4.2020) by virtue of [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/226\)](#), reg. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 11\(2\)\(a\)\(i\)](#)
- F20** Words in Sch. 2 para. 15(8)(a) substituted (1.4.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/226\)](#), reg. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 11\(2\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- F21** Sch. 2 para. 15(9) omitted (1.4.2020) by virtue of [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/226\)](#), reg. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 11\(2\)\(b\)](#)

Patients aged 75 years and over: accountable GP

16.—(1) A contractor must ensure that for each of its registered patients aged 75 and over there is assigned an accountable general medical practitioner (“accountable GP”).

(2) The accountable GP must—

- (a) take lead responsibility for ensuring that any services which the contractor is required to provide under the agreement are, to the extent that their provision is considered necessary to meet the needs of the patient, delivered to the patient;
- (b) take all reasonable steps to recognise and appropriately respond to the physical and psychological needs of the patient in a timely manner;
- (c) ensure that the patient receives a health check if, and within a reasonable period after, one has been requested; and
- (d) work co-operatively with other health and social care professionals who may become involved in the care and treatment of the patient to ensure the delivery of a multi-disciplinary care package designed to meet the needs of the patient.

(3) The contractor must—

- (a) inform the patient, in such manner as is considered appropriate by the contractor's practice, of the assignment to the patient of an accountable GP;
- (b) provide the patient with the name and contact details of the accountable GP and information regarding the role and responsibilities of the accountable GP in respect of the patient;
- (c) inform the patient as soon as any circumstances arise in which the accountable GP is not able, for any significant period, to carry out the duties of an accountable GP in respect of the patient; and

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- (d) where the contractor's practice considers it to be necessary, assign a replacement accountable GP to the patient and inform the patient accordingly.
- (4) The contractor must comply with the requirement in sub-paragraph (3)(a)—
 - (a) in the case of any person aged 75 or over who is accepted by the contractor as a registered patient on or after the date on which these Regulations come into force, before the end of the period of 21 days beginning with the date on which that person is so accepted; or
 - (b) in the case of a person who is included in the contractor's list of patients immediately before the date on which these Regulations come into force and who attains the age of 75 or over on or after that date, before the end of the period of 21 days after the date on which that person attained that age.
- (5) In this paragraph, “health check” means a consultation undertaken by the contractor in the course of which the contractor must make such inquiries and undertake such examinations of the patient as appear to it to be appropriate in all the circumstances.

[^{F22}NHS e-Referral Service (e-RS)]

16A.—(1) Except in the case of a contractor to which sub-paragraph (2) or (3) applies, a contractor must require the use in its practice ^{F23}... of the system for electronic referrals known as the NHS e-Referral Service (“e-RS”) in respect of each referral of any of its registered patients to a first consultant-led out-patient appointment for medical services under the Act in respect of which the facility to use e-RS is available.

(2) This sub-paragraph applies to a contractor which does not yet have e-RS in place for use in the contractor’s practice ^{F23}....

(3) This sub-paragraph applies to a contractor which—

- (a) is experiencing technical or other practical difficulties which are preventing the use, or effective use, of e-RS in its practice ^{F23}...; and
- (b) has notified [^{F1}NHS England] that this is the case.

(4) A contractor to which sub-paragraph (2) applies must require the use in its practice ^{F23}... of alternative means of referring its registered patients to a first consultant-led out-patient appointment for medical services under the Act until such time as the contractor has e-RS in place for use in its practice ^{F23}....

(5) A contractor to which sub-paragraph (3) applies—

- (a) must ensure that a plan is agreed between the contractor’s practice and [^{F1}NHS England] for resolving the technical or other practical difficulties which are preventing the use, or effective use, of e-RS in the contractor’s practice ^{F23}...; and
- (b) must require the use in its practice ^{F23}... of alternative means of referring its registered patients to a first consultant-led out-patient appointment for medical services under the Act until such time as those technical or other practical difficulties have been resolved to the satisfaction of [^{F1}NHS England].

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

F22 Sch. 2 para. 16A inserted (1.10.2018) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018 \(S.I. 2018/844\)](#), regs. 1(2), **14**

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

F23 Word in Sch. 2 para. 16A omitted (1.10.2022) by virtue of The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/935), reg. 1(b), Sch. 2 para. 7(3)

[^{F24}Direct booking by NHS 111 [^{F25}or via a connected service]

16B.—(1) A contractor must ensure that as a minimum the following number of appointments during core hours for its registered patients are made available per day for direct booking by [^{F26}or via a service [^{F27}(“a connected service”)] approved by [^{F1}NHS England] that is or may be accessed via] NHS 111—

- (a) one, where a contractor has 3,000 registered patients or fewer; or
 - (b) one for each whole 3,000 registered patients, where a contractor has more than 3,000 registered patients.
- (2) The requirements in sub-paragraphs (1) and (3) do not apply where—
- (a) [^{F1}NHS England] and the contractor have agreed to suspend the requirements for operational reasons; or
 - (b) the contractor does not have access to computer systems and software which would enable it to offer the service described in sub-paragraph (1).
- (3) A contractor must—
- (a) configure its computerised systems to allow direct booking by NHS 111 [^{F28}or via a connected service];
 - (b) monitor its booking system for appointments booked by NHS 111 [^{F29}or via a connected service];
 - (c) assess the Post Event Message received from NHS 111 [^{F30}or via a connected service] in order to decide whether an alternative to the booked appointment should be arranged, such as a telephone call to the patient or an appointment with another healthcare professional and where appropriate, make those arrangements; and
 - (d) co-operate with [^{F1}NHS England] in its oversight of direct booking by NHS 111 [^{F31}or via a connected service] by providing any information relating to direct booking by NHS 111 [^{F31}or via a connected service] which is reasonably required by [^{F1}NHS England].

(4) In this paragraph, “Post Event Message” means the electronic message which is sent to a contractor at the end of a telephone call to NHS 111 [^{F32}or to a connected service].

[^{F33}(5) In order to assist in the management of a serious or potentially serious risk to human health arising as a consequence of a disease being, or in anticipation of a disease being imminently—

- (a) pandemic; and
- (b) a serious risk or potentially a serious risk to human health,

[^{F1}NHS England] may with the agreement of the Secretary of State make an announcement to the effect that the minimum numbers of appointments mentioned in paragraph (1) are modified in the circumstances specified (which may limit the area to which the modification relates), and for the duration of the period specified, in the announcement, and where [^{F1}NHS England] does so, the minimum numbers are as so modified.]]

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F24** Sch. 2 para. 16B inserted (1.10.2019) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1137\)](#), regs. 1(2), **29**
- F25** Words in Sch. 2 para. 16B heading inserted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 7(a)**
- F26** Words in Sch. 2 para. 16B(1) inserted (27.3.2020) by [The National Health Service \(Amendments Relating to the Provision of Primary Care Services During a Pandemic etc.\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/351\)](#), regs. 1(2), **21(a)**
- F27** Words in Sch. 2 para. 16B(1) inserted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 7(b)**
- F28** Words in Sch. 2 para. 16B(3)(a) inserted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 7(c)**
- F29** Words in Sch. 2 para. 16B(3)(b) inserted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 7(c)**
- F30** Words in Sch. 2 para. 16B(3)(c) inserted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 7(c)**
- F31** Words in Sch. 2 para. 16B(3)(d) inserted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 7(c)**
- F32** Words in Sch. 2 para. 16B(4) inserted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 7(d)**
- F33** Sch. 2 para. 16B(5) inserted (27.3.2020) by [The National Health Service \(Amendments Relating to the Provision of Primary Care Services During a Pandemic etc.\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/351\)](#), regs. 1(2), **21(b)**

Application for inclusion in a list of patients

17.—(1) The contractor may, if the contractor's list of patients is open, accept an application for inclusion in that list made by or on behalf of any person (“the applicant”) whether or not that person is resident in the contractor's practice area or is included, at the time of the application, in the list of patients of another contractor or provider of primary medical services.

(2) If the contractor's list of patients is closed, the contractor may only accept an application for inclusion in that list from a person who is an immediate family member of a registered patient whether or not that person is resident in the contractor's practice area or is included, at the time of the application, in the list of patients of another contractor or provider of primary medical services.

[^{F34}(3) Subject to sub-paragraph (4), an application for inclusion in a contractor's list of patients may be made by the applicant or a person authorised by the applicant submitting ^{F35}... an application form, including an electronic application form, to the contractor.]

(4) An application may be made—

(a) where the patient is a child, on behalf of the patient by—

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

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- (i) either parent, or in the absence of both parents, the guardian or other adult who has care of the child,
- (ii) a person duly authorised by a local authority to whose care the child has been committed under the Children Act 1989 ^{M16}, or
- (iii) a person duly authorised by a voluntary organisation by which the child is being accommodated under the provisions of the Children Act 1989; or
- (b) where the patient is an adult who lacks the capacity to make such an application, or to authorise such an application to be made on their behalf, by—
 - (i) a relative of that person,
 - (ii) the primary carer of that person,
 - (iii) a donee of a lasting power of attorney granted by that person, or
 - (iv) a deputy appointed for that person by the court under the Mental Capacity Act 2005 ^{M17}.
- (5) Where a contractor accepts an application for inclusion in the contractor's list of patients, the contractor must give notice in writing to [F1NHS England] of that acceptance as soon as possible.
- (6) [F1NHS England] must, on receipt of a notice given under sub-paragraph (5)—
 - (a) include the applicant in the contractor's list of patients from the date on which the notice is received; and
 - (b) give notice in writing to the applicant (or, in the case of a child or an adult who lacks capacity, to the person making the application on the applicant's behalf) of that acceptance.
- [F36(7) This paragraph is subject to Part 2A.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F34** [Sch. 2 para. 17\(3\)](#) substituted (1.10.2022) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 3\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/935\)](#), reg. 1(b), **Sch. 2 para. 16**
- F35** Words in [Sch. 2 para. 17\(3\)](#) omitted (15.5.2023) by virtue of [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/449\)](#), reg. 1(2)(b), **Sch. 2 para. 2**
- F36** [Sch. 2 para. 17\(7\)](#) inserted (1.10.2021) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/995\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 3(b)**

Marginal Citations

- M16** 1989 c.41.
- M17** 2005 c.9.

Inclusion in list of patients: armed forces personnel

- 18.**—(1) The contractor may, if the contractor's list of patients is open, include a person to whom sub-paragraph (2) applies in its list of patients for a period of up to two years and paragraph 28(1)(b) does not apply in respect of any person included in the contractor's by virtue of this paragraph.
- (2) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who is—

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- (a) a serving member of the armed forces of the Crown who has received written authorisation from Defence Medical Services ^{M18} to receive primary medical services from the contractor's practice; and
 - (b) living or working within the contractor's practice area during the period in respect of which that written authorisation is given.
- (3) Where the contractor has accepted a person to whom sub-paragraph (2) applies onto its list of patients, the contractor must—
- (a) obtain a copy of the patient's medical record or a summary of that record from Defence Medical Services; and
 - (b) provide regular updates to Defence Medical Services at such intervals as are agreed with Defence Medical Services about any care and treatment which the contractor has provided to the patient.
- (4) At the end of the period of two years, or on such earlier date as the contractor's responsibility for the patient comes to an end, the contractor must—
- (a) notify Defence Medical Services in writing that its responsibility for that person has come to an end; and
 - (b) update the patient's medical record, or summary of that record, and return it to Defence Medical Services.

Marginal Citations

M18 Defence Medical Services is an umbrella organisation within the Ministry of Defence which is responsible for the provision of medical, dental and nursing services in the United Kingdom to members of the armed forces of the Crown.

[^{F37}Inclusion in list of patients: detained persons

18A.—(1) A contractor must, if the contractor's list of patients is open, include a person to whom sub-paragraph (2) applies (a "detained person") in that list and paragraph 28(1)(b) does not apply in respect of a detained person who is included in the contractor's list of patients by virtue of this paragraph.

- (2) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who—
- (a) is serving a term of imprisonment of more than two years, or more than one term of imprisonment totalling, in the aggregate, more than two years;
 - (b) is not registered as a patient with a provider of primary medical services; and
 - (c) makes an application under this paragraph in accordance with sub-paragraph (3) to be included in the contractor's list of patients by virtue of sub-paragraph (1) or (6) before the scheduled release date.
- (3) An application under sub-paragraph (2)(c) may be made during the period commencing one month prior to the scheduled release date and ending 24 hours prior to that date.
- (4) Subject to sub-paragraphs (5) and (6), a contractor may only refuse an application under sub-paragraph (2)(c) if the contractor has reasonable grounds for doing so which do not relate to the applicant's age, appearance, disability or medical condition, gender or gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or social class.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

(5) The reasonable grounds referred to in sub-paragraph (4) may include the ground that the applicant will not, on or after the scheduled release date, live in the contractor's practice area or does not intend to live in that area.

(6) Where a contractor's list of patients is closed, the contractor may, by virtue of this sub-paragraph, accept an application under sub-paragraph (2)(c) if the applicant is an immediate family member of a registered patient.

(7) Where a contractor accepts an application from a person under sub-paragraph (2)(c) for inclusion in the contractor's list of patients, the contractor—

- (a) must give notice in writing to the provider of the detained estate healthcare service or to [F1NHS England] of that acceptance as soon as possible; and
- (b) is not required to provide primary medical services to that person until after the scheduled release date.

(8) [F1NHS England] must, on receipt of a notice given under sub-paragraph (7)(a)—

- (a) include the applicant in the contractor's list of patients from the date notified to [F1NHS England] by the provider of the detained estate healthcare service; and
- (b) give notice in writing to the provider of the detained estate healthcare service of that acceptance.

(9) Where a contractor refuses an application made under sub-paragraph (2)(c), the contractor must give notice in writing of that refusal, and the reasons for it, to the provider of the detained estate healthcare service or to [F1NHS England] before the end of the period of 14 days beginning with the date of its decision to refuse.

(10) The contractor must—

- (a) keep a written record of—
 - (i) the refusal of an application under sub-paragraph (2)(c), and
 - (ii) the reasons for that refusal; and
- (b) make such records available to [F1NHS England] on request.

(11) In this paragraph—

- (a) “the detained estate healthcare service” means the healthcare service commissioned by [F1NHS England] in respect of persons who are detained in prison or in other secure accommodation by virtue of regulations made under section 3B(1)(c) of the Act (Secretary of State's power to require [F1NHS England] to commission services); and
- (b) “the scheduled release date” means the date on which the person making an application under sub-paragraph (2)(c) is due to be released from detention in prison.]

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

F37 Sch. 2 para. 18A inserted (6.10.2017) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2017 \(S.I. 2017/908\)](#), regs. 1(2), **8**

Temporary residents

19.—(1) The contractor may, if the contractor's list of patients is open, accept a person as a temporary resident provided the contractor is satisfied that the person is—

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- (a) temporarily resident away from the person's normal place of residence and is not being provided with essential services (or their equivalent) under any other arrangement in the locality where that person is temporarily residing; or
- (b) moving from place to place and not for the time being resident in any place.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), a person is to be regarded as temporarily resident in a place if, when that person arrives in that place, they intend to stay there for more than 24 hours but not for more than three months.

(3) Where a contractor wants to terminate its responsibility for a person accepted by it as a temporary resident before the end of —

- (a) the period of three months; or
- (b) such shorter period for which the contractor agreed to accept that person as a temporary resident,

the contractor must give notice of that fact to the person either orally or in writing and the contractor's responsibility for that person is to cease seven days after the date on which such notice is given.

(4) Where the contractor's responsibility for a person as a temporary resident comes to an end, the contractor must give notice in writing to [^{F1}NHS England] of its acceptance of that person as a temporary resident—

- (a) at the end of the period of three months beginning with the date on which the contractor accepted that person as a temporary resident; or
- (b) if the contractor's responsibility for that person as a temporary resident came to an end earlier than the end of the three month period referred to in paragraph (a), at the end of that period.

[^{F38}(5) This paragraph is subject to Part 2A.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F38** [Sch. 2 para. 19\(5\)](#) inserted (1.10.2021) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/995\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 3(c)**

Refusal of applications for inclusion in list of patients or for acceptance as a temporary resident

20.—(1) The contractor may only refuse an application made under paragraph 17 or 19 if the contractor has reasonable grounds for doing so which do not relate to the applicant's age, appearance, disability or medical condition, gender or gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or social class.

(2) The reasonable grounds referred to in sub-paragraph (1) may, in the case of an application made under paragraph 17, include the ground that the applicant—

- (a) does not live in the contractor's practice area; or
- (b) lives in the outer boundary area (the area referred to in regulation 13(2)).

(3) Where a contractor refuses an application made under paragraph 17 or 19, the contractor must give notice in writing of that refusal and of the reason for it to the applicant (or, in the case of a child or an adult who lacks capacity, the person making the application on the applicant's behalf) before the end of the period of the period of 14 days beginning with the date of the decision to refuse.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- (4) The contractor must—
- (a) keep a written record of—
 - (i) the refusal of any application made under paragraph 17,
 - (ii) the reasons for that refusal; and
 - (b) make such records available to [F1NHS England] on request.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), [Sch. para. 1](#)

Patient preference of a practitioner

21.—(1) Where the contractor has accepted an application made under paragraph [F39 17, 19, 31D, 31E, 31F or 31G], the contractor must—

- (a) give notice in writing to the person (or, in the case of a child or an adult who lacks capacity, to the person who made the application on the applicant's behalf) of that person's right to express a preference to receive services from a particular performer or class of performer either generally or in relation to any particular condition; and
- (b) record in writing any such preference expressed by or on behalf of that person.

(2) The contractor must endeavour to comply with any reasonable preference expressed under sub-paragraph (1) but need not do so if the preferred performer—

- (a) has reasonable grounds for refusing to provide services to the person who expressed the preference; or
- (b) does not routinely perform the service in question within the contractor's practice.

Textual Amendments

F39 Words in [Sch. 2 para. 21](#) substituted (1.10.2021) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2021 \(S.I. 2021/995\)](#), reg. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 3\(d\)](#)

Removal from the list at the request of the patient

22.—(1) The contractor must give notice in writing to [F1NHS England] of a request made by any person who is a registered patient to be removed from the contractor's list of patients.

- (2) Where [F1NHS England]—
- (a) receives a notice given by the contractor under sub-paragraph (1); or
 - (b) receives directly a request from a person to be removed from the contractor's list of patients,

[F1NHS England] must remove that person from the contractor's list of patients.

(3) The removal of a person from a contractor's list of patients in accordance with this paragraph takes effect on whichever is the earlier of—

- (a) the date on which [F1NHS England] is given notice of the registration of that person with another provider of essential services (or their equivalent); or

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- (b) 14 days after the date on which the notice given under sub-paragraph (1) or the request made under sub-paragraph (2) is received by [F1NHS England]
- (4) [F1NHS England] must, as soon as practicable, give notice in writing to—
 - (a) the person who requested the removal; and
 - (b) the contractor,

that the person's name is to be or has been removed from the contractor's list of patients on the date referred to in sub-paragraph (3).

(5) In this paragraph, and in paragraphs 23(1)(b) and (9), 24(6) and (7), 25(1), 28(2) and 29(3), a reference to a request received from, or advice, information or notice required to be given to, a person includes a request received from or advice, information or notice required to be given to—

- (a) in the case of a child, on behalf of the patient—
 - (i) either parent, or in the absence of both parents, the guardian or other adult who has care of the child,
 - (ii) a person duly authorised by a local authority to whose care the child has been committed under the Children Act 1989 ^{M19}, or
 - (iii) a person duly authorised by a voluntary organisation by whom the child is being accommodated under the Children Act 1989; or
- (b) in the case of an adult patient who lacks capacity to make the relevant request or receive the relevant advice, information or notice—
 - (i) a relative of that person,
 - (ii) the primary carer of that person,
 - (iii) a donee of a lasting power of attorney granted by that person, or
 - (iv) a deputy appointed for that person by the court under the provisions of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 ^{M20}.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Marginal Citations

M19 1989 c.41.

M20 2005 c.9.

Removal from the list at the request of the contractor

23.—(1) Subject to paragraph 24, where a contractor has reasonable grounds for wanting a person to be removed from its list of patients which do not relate to the person's age, appearance, disability or medical condition, gender or gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or social class, the contractor must—

- (a) give notice in writing to [F1NHS England] that it wants to have that person removed; and
 - (b) subject to paragraph (2), give notice in writing to that person of its specific reasons for requesting the removal of that person.
- (2) Where, in the reasonable opinion of the contractor—

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- (a) the circumstances of the person's removal are such that it is not appropriate for a more specific reason to be given; and
- (b) there has been an irrevocable breakdown in the relationship between the person and the contractor,

the reason given under sub-paragraph (1) may consist of a statement that there has been such a breakdown.

(3) Except in the circumstances specified in sub-paragraph (4), a contractor may only request the removal of a person from its list of patients under sub-paragraph (1) if, before the end of the period of 12 months beginning with the date of the contractor's request to [F1NHS England], the contractor has—

- (a) warned the person of the risk of being removed from that list; and
- (b) explained to that person the reasons for this.

(4) The circumstances specified in this sub-paragraph are that—

- ^{F40}(a)
- (b) the contractor has reasonable grounds for believing that the giving of such a warning would—
 - (i) be harmful to the person's physical or mental health, or
 - (ii) put at risk the safety of any party to the agreement who is an individual, any member of the contractor's staff or any other person; or

(c) the contractor considers that it is not otherwise reasonable or practical for a warning to be given.

(5) The contractor must keep a written record of—

- (a) the date of any warning given in accordance with sub-paragraph (3) and the reasons for giving such a warning as explained to the person concerned; or
- (b) the reason why no such warning was given.

(6) The contractor must keep a written record of the removal of any person from its list of patients under this paragraph which must include—

- (a) the reason given for the removal;
- (b) the circumstances of the removal; and
- (c) in a case where sub-paragraph (2) applies, grounds for a more specific reason not being appropriate,

and the contractor must make this record available to [F1NHS England] on request.

(7) The removal of a person from the contractor's list of patients in accordance with this paragraph must, subject to sub-paragraph (8), take effect from whichever is the earlier of—

- (a) the date on which [F1NHS England] is given notice of the registration of that person with another provider of essential services (or their equivalent); or
- (b) the eighth day after [F1NHS England] receives the notice referred to in sub-paragraph (1) (a).

(8) Where, on the date on which the removal of a person would take effect under sub-paragraph (7), the contractor is treating that person at intervals of less than seven days, the contractor must give notice in writing to [F1NHS England] of that fact and the removal is to take effect on whichever is the earlier of—

- (a) the eighth day after [F1NHS England] is given notice by the contractor that the person no longer needs such treatment; or

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(b) the date on which [F1NHS England] is given notice of the registration of the person with another provider of essential services (or their equivalent).

(9) [F1NHS England] must give notice in writing to—

(a) the person in respect of whom the removal is requested; and

(b) the contractor,

that the person's name has been or is to be removed from the contractor's list of patients on the date referred to in sub-paragraph (7) or (8).

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

F40 Sch. 2 para. 23(4)(a) omitted (E.) (1.10.2020) by virtue of [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 8**

Removal from the list of patients who are violent

24.—(1) Where a contractor wants a person to be removed from its list of patients with immediate effect on the grounds that—

(a) the person has committed an act of violence against any of the persons specified in sub-paragraph (2) or has behaved in such a way that any of those persons has feared for their safety; and

(b) the contractor has reported the incident to the police,

the contractor must give notice to [F1NHS England] in accordance with sub-paragraph (3).

[F41(1A) [F42Subject to sub-paragraph (1B), where a contractor]—

(a) accepts a person onto its list of patients; and

(b) subsequently becomes aware that the person has previously been removed from the list of patients of another provider of primary medical services—

(i) because the person committed an act of violence against any of the persons specified in sub-paragraph (2) (as read with sub-paragraph (2A)) or behaved in such a way that any of those persons feared for their safety; and

(ii) the other provider of primary medical services reported the incident to the police,

the contractor may give notice to [F1NHS England] in accordance with sub-paragraph (3) that it wants to have the person removed from its list of patients with immediate effect.]

[F43(1B) A contractor must not give notice to [F1NHS England] pursuant to sub-paragraph (1A), where—

(a) a person mentioned in paragraph (1A) was allocated to a Violent Patient Scheme set up in accordance with direction 8 of the Primary Medical Services (Directed Enhanced Services) Directions 2020 to receive primary medical services under that scheme; and

(b) the provider of the Scheme discharged that person because they were not considered to pose a risk of violence, or

(c) that person successfully appealed their allocation to a Violent Patient Scheme.]

(2) The persons specified in this sub-paragraph are—

(a) any party to the agreement who is an individual;

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- (b) a member of the contractor's staff;
- (c) a person engaged by the contractor to perform or assist in the performance of services under the agreement;
- (d) any other person present—
 - (i) on the contractor's practice premises, or
 - (ii) in the place where services were provided to the patient under the agreement.

[^{F44}(2A) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1A), any reference to “the contractor” in sub-paragraph (2) is to be read as a reference to the other provider of primary medical services referred to in sub-paragraph (1A), and sub-paragraph (2) is to be construed accordingly.]

(3) Notice under [^{F45}sub-paragraph (1) or (1A)] may be given by any means but, if not in writing, must subsequently be confirmed in writing before the end of a period of seven days beginning with the date on which the notice was given.

(4) [^{F1}NHS England] must acknowledge in writing receipt of a request from the contractor under [^{F46}sub-paragraph (1) or (1A)].

(5) A removal requested in accordance with [^{F47}sub-paragraph (1) or (1A)] takes effect at the time at which the contractor—

- (a) makes a telephone call to [^{F1}NHS England]; or
- (b) sends or delivers the notice to [^{F1}NHS England].

(6) Where, under this paragraph, the contractor has given notice to [^{F1}NHS England] that it wants to have a person removed from its list of patients, the contractor must inform that person of that fact unless—

- (a) it is not reasonably practicable for the contractor to do so; or
- (b) the contractor has reasonable grounds for believing that to do so would—
 - (i) be harmful to the person's physical or mental health, or
 - (ii) put the safety of a person specified in sub-paragraph (2) at risk.

(7) Where a person is removed from the contractor's list of patients in accordance with this paragraph, [^{F1}NHS England] must give that person notice in writing of that removal.

(8) The contractor must record the removal of any person from its list of patients under this paragraph and the circumstances leading to that removal in the medical records of the person removed.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F41** Sch. 2 para. 24(1A) inserted (1.10.2018) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018 \(S.I. 2018/844\)](#), regs. 1(2), **15(a)**
- F42** Words in Sch. 2 para. 24(1A) substituted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 9(a)**
- F43** Sch. 2 para. 24(1B) inserted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 9(b)**

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- F44** Sch. 2 para. 24(2A) inserted (1.10.2018) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018 \(S.I. 2018/844\)](#), regs. 1(2), **15(b)**
- F45** Words in Sch. 2 para. 24(3) substituted (1.10.2018) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018 \(S.I. 2018/844\)](#), regs. 1(2), **15(c)**
- F46** Words in Sch. 2 para. 24(4) substituted (1.10.2018) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018 \(S.I. 2018/844\)](#), regs. 1(2), **15(c)**
- F47** Words in Sch. 2 para. 24(5) substituted (1.10.2018) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018 \(S.I. 2018/844\)](#), regs. 1(2), **15(c)**

Removal from the list of patients registered elsewhere

- 25.**—(1) [F1NHS England] must remove a person from the contractor's list of patients if—
- (a) the person has subsequently been registered with another provider of essential services (or their equivalent) in England; or
 - (b) [F1NHS England] has been given notice by a Local Health Board, a Health Board or a Health and Social Services Board that the person has subsequently been registered with a provider of essential services (or their equivalent) outside of England.
- (2) A removal in accordance with sub-paragraph (1) takes effect—
- (a) on the date on which [F1NHS England] is given notice of the person's registration with the new provider; or
 - (b) with the consent of [F1NHS England], on such other date as has been agreed between the contractor and the new provider.
- (3) [F1NHS England] must give notice in writing to the contractor of any person removed from its list of patients under sub-paragraph (1).

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Removal from the list of patients who have moved

- 26.**—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), where [F1NHS England] is satisfied[F48], or is notified by the contractor] that a person on the contractor's list of patients has moved and no longer resides in the contractor's practice area, [F1NHS England] must—
- (a) inform both the person and the contractor that the contractor is no longer obliged to visit and treat that person;
 - (b) advise the person in writing to either obtain the contractor's agreement to that person's continued inclusion in the contractor's list of patients or to apply for registration with another provider of essential services (or their equivalent); and
 - (c) inform the person that if, after the end of the period of 30 days beginning with the date on which the advice mentioned in paragraph (b) was given, that person has not acted in accordance with that advice and informed [F1NHS England] accordingly, that person will be removed from the contractor's list of patients.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

(2) If, at the end of period of 30 days mentioned in sub-paragraph (1)(c), [F1NHS England] has not been informed by the person of the action taken, [F1NHS England] must remove that person from the contractor's list of patients and inform that person and the contractor of that removal.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F48** Words in [Sch. 2 para. 26\(1\)](#) inserted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 10**

Removal from list of patients whose address is unknown

27. Where the address of a person who is on the contractor's list of patients is no longer known to [F1NHS England], [F1NHS England] must—

- (a) give notice in writing to the contractor that it intends, at the end of the period of six months beginning with the date on which notice was given, to remove the person from the contractor's list of patients; and
- (b) at the end of the period referred to in sub-paragraph (a), remove the person from the contractor's list of patients unless, before the end of that period, the contractor satisfies [F1NHS England] that the person is a patient to whom the contractor is still responsible for providing essential services.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Removal from the list of patients absent from the United Kingdom etc.

28.—(1) [F1NHS England] must remove a person from a contractor's list of patients where it is given notice to the effect that the person—

- (a) intends to be away from the United Kingdom for a period of at least three months;
- (b) is in the armed forces of the Crown (except in the case of a patient to whom paragraph 18 applies);
- (c) is serving a term of imprisonment of more than two years or more than one term of imprisonment totalling, in the aggregate, more than two years;
- (d) has been absent from the United Kingdom for a period of more than three months; or
- (e) has died.

(2) The removal of a person from a contractor's list of patients under this paragraph takes effect from—

- (a) where sub-paragraph (1)(a) to (c) applies—
 - (i) the date of the person's departure, enlistment or imprisonment, or
 - (ii) the date on which [F1NHS England] is given notice of the person's departure, enlistment or imprisonment,
 whichever is the later; or

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- (b) where sub-paragraph (1)(d) and (e) applies, the date on which [F1NHS England] is given notice of the person's absence or death.
- (3) [F1NHS England] must give notice in writing to the contractor of the removal of a person from the contractor's list of patients under this paragraph.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Removal from the list of patients accepted elsewhere as temporary residents

29.—(1) [F1NHS England] must remove a person from a contractor's list of patients where the person has been accepted as a temporary resident by another contractor or other provider of essential services (or their equivalent) in any case where [F1NHS England] is satisfied, after due inquiry, that—

- (a) the person's stay in the place of temporary residence has exceeded three months; and
- (b) the person has not returned to their normal place of residence or to any other place within the contractor's practice area.

(2) [F1NHS England] must give notice in writing of any removal of a person from the contractor's list of patients under this paragraph—

- (a) to the contractor; and
- (b) where practicable, to that person.

(3) A notice given to a person under sub-paragraph (2)(b) must inform the person to whom it is given of—

- (a) that person's entitlement to make arrangements for the provision to that person of essential services (or their equivalent), including by the contractor by which that person has been treated as a temporary resident; and
- (b) the name, postal and electronic mail address and telephone number of [F1NHS England].

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Removal from a list of pupils etc. of a school

30.—(1) Where the contractor provides essential services under the agreement to persons on the grounds that they are pupils at, or staff or residents of, a school, [F1NHS England] must remove any such person from a contractor's list of patients who does not appear on the particulars provided by that school of persons who are pupils at, or staff or residents of, that school.

(2) Where [F1NHS England] has requested a school to provide the particulars referred to in sub-paragraph (1) and has not received those particulars, [F1NHS England] must consult the contractor as to whether it should remove from the contractor's list of patients any persons appearing in that list as pupils at, or staff or residents of, that school.

(3) [F1NHS England] must give notice in writing to the contractor of the removal of any person from the contractor's list of patients under this paragraph.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Termination of responsibility for patients not registered with the contractor

31.—(1) Where the contractor has—

- (a) received an application for the provision of medical services, other than essential services—
 - (i) from a person who is not included in the contractor's list of patients,
 - (ii) from a person that the contractor has not accepted as a temporary resident, or
 - (iii) made on behalf of a person referred to in paragraph (i) or (ii) by a person specified in paragraph 17(4); and
- (b) accepted the person making the application or on whose behalf the application is made as a patient for the provision of the service in question,

the contractor's responsibility for that person terminates in the circumstances described in sub-paragraph (2).

(2) The circumstances described in this sub-paragraph are that—

- (a) the contractor is informed that the person no longer wishes the contractor to be responsible for the provision of the service in question;
- (b) in a case where the contractor has reasonable grounds for terminating its responsibility to provide the service to the person which do not relate to the person's age, appearance, disability or medical condition, gender or gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or social class, the contractor informs the person that it no longer wants to be responsible for providing that person with the service in question; or
- (c) it comes to the contractor's attention that the person—
 - (i) no longer resides in the area for which the contractor has agreed to provide the service in question, or
 - (ii) is no longer included in the list of patients of another contractor to whose registered patients the contractor has agreed to provide that service.

(3) Where a contractor wants to terminate its responsibility for a person under sub-paragraph (2)(b), the contractor must give notice of the termination to that person and the reason for it.

(4) The contractor must keep a written record of any terminations under this paragraph and of the reasons for those terminations and must make this record available to ^{F1}NHS England] on request.

(5) A termination under sub-paragraph (2)(b) takes effect—

- (a) where the grounds for termination are those specified in paragraph 24(1), from the date on which the notice is given; or
- (b) in any other case, 14 days after the date on which the notice is given.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

[^{F49}PART 2A

List of patients: Crown servants posted overseas and their family members

Textual Amendments

F49 Sch. 2 Pt. 2A inserted (1.10.2021) by The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2021 (S.I. 2021/995), reg. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 3(e)

CHAPTER 1

Interpretation of Part 2A

Meaning of “qualifying person”

31A.—(1) A person (“P”) is a qualifying person for the purposes of this Part of this Schedule if—

- (a) P is returning, or has returned, to the United Kingdom, and
- (b) sub-paragraph (2), (3), (4) or (5) applies to P.

Civil servants posted overseas

(2) This sub-paragraph applies to P if—

- (a) P is a civil servant who is, or, immediately before their return to the United Kingdom, was, posted overseas, or
- (b) where P is returning, or has returned, to the United Kingdom for a period of more than three months—
 - (i) P was a civil servant who was posted overseas, and
 - (ii) is returning, or has returned, to the United Kingdom (other than temporarily) for the first time since ceasing to be a civil servant.

Family members of Crown servants posted overseas

(3) This sub-paragraph applies to P if P—

- (a) is a relevant family member of a person to whom sub-paragraph (2) applies (“R”), and
- (b) is, or, immediately before their return to the United Kingdom, was, accompanying R on the posting mentioned in sub-paragraph (2).

(4) This sub-paragraph applies to P if P—

- (a) is a relevant family member of a civil servant (“C”) who—
 - (i) is posted overseas, or
 - (ii) where C is deceased, was at the time of their death posted overseas, and
- (b) is, or, immediately before their return to the United Kingdom, was, accompanying C on the posting mentioned in paragraph (a).

(5) This sub-paragraph applies to P if—

- (a) P is a relevant family member of a person (“M”) who—
 - (i) is a member of the armed forces of the Crown who is, or, immediately before their return to the United Kingdom, was posted overseas,

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

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- (ii) where M is returning, or has returned, to the United Kingdom for more than three months—
 - (aa) was a member of the armed forces of the Crown who was posted overseas, and
 - (bb) is returning, or has returned, to the United Kingdom (other than temporarily) for the first time since ceasing to be a member of those forces, or
 - (iii) where M is deceased, was at the time of their death a member of the armed forces of the Crown posted overseas, and
- (b) P is, or, immediately before their return to the United Kingdom, was, accompanying M on the posting mentioned in paragraph (a).
- (6) In this paragraph—
 - “civil servant” means a person employed in the civil service of the State;
 - “Crown servant” means—
 - (a) a civil servant, or
 - (b) a member of the armed forces of the Crown.
- (7) For the purposes of this paragraph “relevant family member”, in relation to a Crown servant (including a Crown servant who is deceased) (“C”), means—
 - (a) C’s spouse or civil partner;
 - (b) a person whose relationship with C has the characteristics of a relationship between spouses or civil partners;
 - (c) C’s former spouse or former civil partner;
 - (d) a person whose relationship with C had the characteristics of a relationship between spouses or civil partners but which has ended (for any reason);
 - (e) C’s widow, widower or surviving civil partner;
 - (f) a dependent child.
- (8) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (7)(f), a person is a “dependent child” of a Crown servant if they are a child of the Crown servant and—
 - (a) they—
 - (i) have not, or, when they departed the United Kingdom, had not, attained the relevant age, and
 - (ii) are, or, where the Crown servant is deceased, were, wholly or mainly financially dependent on the Crown servant whilst accompanying the Crown servant on their overseas posting, or
 - (b) they are, or where the Crown servant is deceased, were, wholly or mainly financially dependent on the Crown servant because of a disability (within the meaning of section 6 of the Equality Act 2010).
- (10) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (8)(a)(i) “relevant age”—
 - (a) in relation to a child of a civil servant, means the age of 21;
 - (b) in relation to a child of a member of the armed forces of the Crown, means the age of 25.

Qualifying persons to be treated as previous patients of contractors

31B.—(1) For the purposes of this Part of this Schedule, a qualifying person is required to be treated as a previous patient of a contractor if—

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- (a) where sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 31A applies to P, P was removed from the contractor's, or a predecessor contractor's, list of patients under paragraph 28(1)(a) or (d) following the posting mentioned paragraph 31A(2) or a previous overseas posting;
- (b) where sub-paragraph (3) of paragraph 31A applies to P, R (within the meaning of that sub-paragraph) was removed from the contractor's, or a predecessor contractor's, list of patients under paragraph 28(1)(a) or (d) following the posting mentioned paragraph 31A(2) or a previous overseas posting;
- (c) where sub-paragraph (4) of paragraph 31A applies to P, C (within the meaning of that sub-paragraph) was removed from the contractor's, or a predecessor contractor's, list of patients under paragraph 28(1)(a) or (d) following the posting mentioned in paragraph 31A(4) or a previous overseas posting;
- (d) where sub-paragraph (5) of paragraph 31A applies to P, P was removed from the contractor's, or a predecessor contractor's, list of patients under paragraph 28(1)(a) or (d) following P accompanying M (within the meaning of paragraph 31A(5)) on the posting mentioned paragraph 31A(5) or on a previous overseas posting.

(2) For the purposes of this paragraph, a contractor ("A") is a predecessor contractor in relation to another contractor ("B") if B assumes any of the obligations of A to provide services which were originally provided by A under A's contract.

General interpretation of Part 2A

31C.—(1) In this Part of this Schedule—

"child" means—

- (a) a natural child,
- (b) an adopted child, or
- (c) a step-child;

"planned return date" means the date on which a person intends to return to the United Kingdom;

"qualifying person" has the meaning given in paragraph 31A;

"relevant family member" has the meaning given in paragraph 31A.

(2) For the purposes of this Part of this Schedule, a Crown servant is posted overseas if they—

- (a) are performing overseas (but not in Northern Ireland) the duties of a civil servant or, as the case may be, a member of those forces overseas, and
- (b) were immediately before their posting, or the first of consecutive postings, ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom.

(3) For the purposes of this Part of this Schedule, a relevant family member of a Crown servant who has not resided in the United Kingdom and is coming, or has come, to the United Kingdom for the first time is to be treated as if—

- (a) they were returning, or had returned, to the United Kingdom, and
- (b) they departed the United Kingdom on the day on which they became a relevant family member of the Crown servant.

(4) For the purposes of this Part of this Schedule, a person is to be regarded as temporarily resident in a place if, when that person arrives in that place, they intend to stay for more than 24 hours but not for more than three months.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

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CHAPTER 2

Crown servants and family members returning to the United Kingdom: registration with original or successor practice

Crown servants and family members returning to the United Kingdom for more than three months: inclusion in list of original practice or successor practice

31D.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (4), a contractor must include a qualifying person in the contractor’s list of patients if the qualifying person (“P”) if—

- (a) P is not registered as a patient with a provider of primary medical services,
- (b) P is required to be treated as a previous patient of the contractor,
- (c) P is returning, or has returned, to the United Kingdom for a period of more than three months, and
- (d) either—
 - (i) P makes an application for inclusion in the contractor’s list of patients (a “list application”), or
 - (ii) where P is a person to whom sub-paragraph (2) applies, a list application is made on their behalf by an appropriate person.

(2) This sub-paragraph applies to a person if they—

- (a) have not attained the age of 16 years, or
- (b) lack the capacity to make a list application or authorise a person to make such an application on their behalf.

(3) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) it does not matter whether the contractor’s list of patients is open or closed.

(4) A list application—

- (a) may be made on or after the date which is one month before the planned return date, but
- (b) must be made before the end of the period of three months beginning with the day on which the person returns to the United Kingdom.

(5) Paragraph 28(1)(a) or (d) does not apply in respect of a qualifying person who is included in the contractor’s list of patients by virtue of sub-paragraph (1) before their return to the United Kingdom.

(6) Where a contractor accepts a list application, the contractor—

- (a) must give notice in writing to [F1NHS England] of that acceptance (including the planned return date, where the application is made and accepted before that date) as soon as possible, but
- (b) is not required to provide primary medical services to the qualifying person before their return to the United Kingdom.

(7) [F1NHS England] must, on receipt of a notice given under sub-paragraph (6)(a)—

- (a) include the qualifying person in the contractor’s list of patients from the relevant date, and
- (b) give notice in writing to the qualifying person or the appropriate person (as the case may be) of the acceptance.

(8) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (7)(a) “the relevant date” is—

- (a) where the relevant list application is made after a person’s return to the United Kingdom, the date on which [F1NHS England] receives the notice given under sub-paragraph (7)(a);

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

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- (b) where the relevant list application is made before a person’s return to the United Kingdom, the later of—
 - (i) the planned return date, and
 - (ii) the date on which [F1NHS England] receives the notice given under sub-paragraph (7)(a).
- (10) This paragraph is subject to paragraph 31H.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Crown servants and family members returning to the United Kingdom for three months or less: temporary registration with original or successor practice

31E.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (5), a contractor must accept a qualifying person to whom sub-paragraph (2) applies (“P”) as a temporary resident provided that the contractor is satisfied that—

- (a) if P is in the United Kingdom, P is not being provided with essential services (or their equivalent) under any other arrangement in the locality where P is temporarily residing, or
 - (b) if P is not yet in the United Kingdom, when P arrives in the United Kingdom, P will not be provided with essential services (or their equivalent) under any other arrangement in the locality where P will be temporarily residing.
- (2) This sub-paragraph applies to a qualifying person if—
- (a) they are returning, or have returned, to the United Kingdom for a period of more than 24 hours but not more than three months,
 - (b) they are required to be treated as a previous patient of the contractor, and
 - (c) either—
 - (i) they make an application to be accepted as a temporary resident by the contractor (a “temporary resident application”), or
 - (ii) where they are a person to whom sub-paragraph (3) applies, a temporary resident application is made on their behalf by an appropriate person.
- (3) This sub-paragraph applies to a person if they—
- (a) have not attained the age of 16 years, or
 - (b) lack the capacity to make a temporary resident application or authorise a person to make such an application on their behalf.
- (4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), it does not matter whether the contractor’s list of patients is open or closed.
- (5) A temporary resident application may be made on or after the date which falls one month before the planned return date.
- (6) Where a contractor accepts a temporary resident application, the contractor’s responsibility for the relevant qualifying person does not begin until the relevant date.
- (7) Where a contractor wants to terminate its responsibility for a qualifying person accepted by it as a temporary resident under this paragraph before the end of the temporary residence period—
- (a) the contractor must give notice, either orally or in writing, of that fact to the qualifying person or an appropriate person (as the case may be), and

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

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- (b) the contractor’s responsibility for the qualifying person is to cease seven days after the date on which the notice mentioned in paragraph (a) is given.
- (8) The contractor must give notice in writing to [^{F1}NHS England] of its acceptance of the qualifying person as a temporary resident—
- (a) at the end of the period of three months beginning with the relevant date, or
- (b) if the contractor’s period of responsibility for that person as a temporary resident came to an end earlier than the end of the three month period referred to in paragraph (a), at the end of that period.
- (9) In this paragraph—
- “relevant date” means the later of—
- (a) the date on which the contractor accepts the qualifying person as a temporary resident, and
- (b) the date on which the qualifying person returns to the United Kingdom;
- “the temporary residence period”, in relation to a qualifying person, means—
- (a) the period of three months beginning with the relevant date, or
- (b) such shorter period for which the contractor agreed to accept that person as a temporary resident.
- (10) This paragraph is subject to paragraph 31H.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

CHAPTER 3

Crown servants and family members returning to the United Kingdom: registration with a new practice

Crown servants and family members returning to the United Kingdom for more than three months: inclusion in list of patients of a new practice

31F.—(1) A contractor must, if the contractor’s list of patient’s is open, include a qualifying person (“P”) in the contractor’s list of patients if—

- (a) P is not registered as a patient with a provider of primary medical services,
- (b) P is returning, or has returned, to the United Kingdom for a period of more than three months,
- (c) P is not required to be treated as a previous patient of the contractor, and
- (d) either—
- (i) P makes an application for inclusion in that list (a “list application”), or
- (ii) where P is a person to whom sub-paragraph (2) applies, a list application is made on their behalf by an appropriate person.
- (2) This sub-paragraph applies to a person if they—
- (a) have not attained the age of 16 years, or
- (b) lack the capacity to make a list application or authorise a person to make such an application on their behalf.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

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(3) A list application may be made during the period commencing one month prior to the planned return date and ending 24 hours prior to that date.

(4) Where a contractor's list of patients is closed, the contractor may, by virtue of this sub-paragraph, accept a list application if the applicant is an immediate family member of a registered patient.

(5) Paragraph 28(1)(a) or (d) does not apply in respect of a qualifying person who is included in the contractor's list of patients by virtue of sub-paragraph (1) before their return to the United Kingdom.

(6) Where a contractor accepts a list application, the contractor—

- (a) must give notice in writing to [F1NHS England] of that acceptance (including the planned return date) as soon as possible, but
- (b) is not required to provide primary medical services to the qualifying person before they return to the United Kingdom.

(7) [F1NHS England] must, on receipt of a notice given under sub-paragraph (6)(a)—

- (a) include the qualifying person in the contractor's list of patients from the relevant date, and
- (b) give notice in writing to the qualifying person or the appropriate person (as the case may be) of the acceptance.

(9) For the purposes of paragraph (7)(a) "the relevant date" is the later of—

- (a) the date on which [F1NHS England] receives the notice given under sub-paragraph (6)(a), and
- (b) the planned return date.

(10) This paragraph is subject to paragraph 31H.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), [Sch. para. 1](#)

Crown servants and family members returning to the United Kingdom for three months or less: temporary registration with new practice

31G.—(1) A contractor must, if the contractor's list of patients is open, accept a qualifying person to whom sub-paragraph (2) applies ("P") as a temporary resident provided that the contractor is satisfied that—

- (a) if P is in the United Kingdom, P is not being provided with essential services (or their equivalent) under any other arrangement in the locality where P is temporarily residing, or
- (b) if P is not yet in the United Kingdom, when P arrives in the United Kingdom, P will not be provided with essential services (or their equivalent) under any other arrangement in the locality where P will be temporarily residing.

(2) This sub-paragraph applies to a qualifying person if—

- (a) they are returning, or have returned, to the United Kingdom for a period of at least 24 hours but not more than three months,
- (b) they are not required to be treated as a previous patient of the contractor, and
- (c) either—

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

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- (i) they make an application to be accepted as a temporary resident by the contractor (a “temporary resident application”), or
 - (ii) where they are a person to whom sub-paragraph (3) applies, a temporary resident application is made on their behalf by an appropriate person.
- (3) This sub-paragraph applies to a person if they—
- (a) have not attained the age of 16 years, or
 - (b) lack the capacity to make a temporary resident application or authorise a person to make such an application on their behalf.
- (4) A temporary resident application may be made on or after the date which falls one month before the planned return date.
- (5) Where a contractor accepts a temporary resident application, the contractor’s responsibility for the relevant qualifying person does not begin until the relevant date.
- (7) Where a contractor wants to terminate its responsibility for a qualifying person accepted by it as a temporary resident under this paragraph before the end of the temporary residence period—
- (a) the contractor must give notice, either orally or in writing, of that fact to the qualifying person or an appropriate person (as the case may be), and
 - (b) the contractor’s responsibility for the qualifying person is to cease seven days after the date on which the notice mentioned in paragraph (a) is given.
- (8) The contractor must give notice in writing to [^{F1}NHS England] of its acceptance of the qualifying person as a temporary resident—
- (a) at the end of the period of three months beginning with the relevant date, or
 - (b) if the contractor’s period of responsibility for that person as a temporary resident came to an end earlier than the end of the three month period referred to in paragraph (a), at the end of that period.
- (9) In this paragraph—
- “relevant date” means the later of—
- (a) the date on which the contractor accepts the qualifying person as a temporary resident, and
 - (b) the date on which the qualifying person returns to the United Kingdom;
- “the temporary residence period”, in relation to a qualifying person, means—
- (a) the period of three months beginning with the relevant date, or
 - (b) such shorter period for which the contractor agreed to accept that person as a temporary resident.
- (10) This paragraph is subject to paragraph 31H.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

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CHAPTER 4

Refusal of applications made under this Part

Refusal of an application under paragraphs 31D to 31G

31H.—(1) The contractor may refuse a list application, or a temporary residence application, if (and only if) the contractor has reasonable grounds for doing so which do not relate to the qualifying person’s age, appearance, disability or medical condition, gender or gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or social class.

(2) The reasonable grounds referred to in sub-paragraph (1) may, in the case of a list application, include the ground that the qualifying person will not, on or after the planned return date, live in, or does not intend to live in, either of the following areas—

- (a) the contractor’s practice area, or
- (b) the outer boundary area (the area referred to in regulation 13(2)).

(3) Where a contractor refuses a list application, or temporary resident application, the contractor must give a refusal notice to the relevant person before the end of the period of 14 days beginning with the date of the decision to refuse the application.

(4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (3), the relevant person is—

- (a) the applicant, or
- (b) where the application was made on behalf of a person who has not attained the age of 16 years or a person who lacks capacity, the person who made the application on their behalf.

(5) The contractor must—

- (a) keep a written record of—
 - (i) the refusal of any list application, and
 - (ii) its reasons for that refusal, and
- (b) make such records available to [F1NHS England] on request.

(6) In this paragraph—

“list application” means an application under paragraph 31D or 31F;

“refusal notice” means a notice which—

- (a) is in writing, and
- (b) includes the reasons for a decision to refuse the relevant application;

“temporary residence application” means an application under paragraph 31E or 31G.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), [Sch. para. 1](#)

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

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PART 3

List of patients: closure etc.

Application for closure of list of patients

32.—(1) Where a contractor wants to close its list of patients, the contractor must send a written application to that effect (“the application”) to [F1NHS England].

(2) The application must include the following information—

- (a) the options which the contractor has considered, rejected or implemented in an attempt to alleviate the difficulties which the contractor has encountered in respect of its open list and, if any of the options were implemented, the level of success in reducing or extinguishing such difficulties;
- (b) details of any discussions between the contractor and its patients and a summary of those discussions including whether or not, in the opinion of those patients, the list of patients should be closed;
- (c) details of any discussions between the contractor and the other contractors in the contractor's practice area and a summary of the opinion of the other contractors as to whether or not the list of patients should be closed;
- (d) the period of time, being a period of not less than three months and not more than 12 months, during which the contractor wants its list of patients to be closed;
- (e) details of any reasonable support from [F1NHS England] which the contractor considers would enable its list of patients to remain open or would enable the period of proposed closure to be minimised;
- (f) any plans which the contractor may have to alleviate the difficulties mentioned in the application during the period of the proposed closure in order for that list to re-open at the end of that period without the existence of those difficulties; and
- (g) any other information which the contractor considers ought to be drawn to the attention of [F1NHS England].

(3) [F1NHS England] must acknowledge receipt of the application before the end of the period of seven days beginning with the date on which the application was received by [F1NHS England].

(4) [F1NHS England] must consider the application and may request such other information from the contractor as [F1NHS England] requires in order to enable it to decide the application.

(5) [F1NHS England] must enter into discussions with the contractor concerning—

- (a) the support which [F1NHS England] may give to the contractor; or
- (b) any changes which [F1NHS England] or the contractor may make,

which would enable the contractor to keep its list of patients open.

(6) [F1NHS England] and the contractor must, throughout the period of the discussions referred to in sub-paragraph (5), use reasonable endeavours to achieve the aim of keeping the contractor's list of patients open.

(7) [F1NHS England] or the contractor may, at any stage during the discussions, invite the Local Medical Committee (if any) for the area in which the contractor provides services under the agreement to attend any meetings arranged between [F1NHS England] and the contractor to discuss the application.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

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(8) [F1NHS England] may consult such persons as it appears to [F1NHS England] may be affected by the closure of the contractor's list of patients and, if it does so, [F1NHS England] must provide to the contractor a summary of the views expressed by those persons consulted in respect of the application.

(9) [F1NHS England] must enable the contractor to consider and comment on all the information before [F1NHS England] makes a decision in respect of the application.

(10) A contractor may withdraw the application at any time before [F1NHS England] makes a decision in respect of that application.

(11) [F1NHS England] must, before the end of the period of 21 days beginning with the date on which the application was received by [F1NHS England] (or within such longer period as the parties may agree), make a decision to—

- (a) approve the application and determine the date from which the closure of the contractor's list is to take effect and the date on which the list of patients is to reopen; or
- (b) reject the application.

(12) [F1NHS England] must give notice in writing to the contractor of its decision to—

- (a) approve the application in accordance with paragraph 33; or
- (b) reject the application in accordance with paragraph 34.

(13) A contractor may not submit more than one application to close its list of patients in any period of 12 months beginning with the date on which [F1NHS England] makes its decision on the application unless—

- (a) paragraph 35 applies; or
- (b) there has been a change in the circumstances of the contractor which affects its ability to deliver services under the agreement.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Approval of an application to close a list of patients

33.—(1) Where [F1NHS England] approves an application to close a contractor's list of patients, [F1NHS England] must—

- (a) give notice in writing to the contractor of its decision as soon as possible and the notice (“the closure notice”) must include the details specified in sub-paragraph (2); and
- (b) at the same time as [F1NHS England] gives notice to the contractor, send a copy of the closure notice to—
 - (i) the Local Medical Committee (if any) for the area in which the contractor provides services under the agreement, and
 - (ii) any person who [F1NHS England] consulted in accordance with paragraph 32(8).

(2) The closure notice must include—

- (a) the period of time for which the contractor's list of patients is to be closed which must be—
 - (i) the period specified in the application, or

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- (ii) where [F1NHS England] and the contractor have agreed in writing to a different period, that different period, and, in either case, the period must not be less than three months and not more than 12 months;
- (b) the date on which the closure of the contractor's list of patients is to take effect (“the closure date”); and
- (c) the date on which the list of patients is to re-open.

(3) Subject to paragraph 36, a contractor must close its list of patients with effect from the closure date and the list of patients must remain closed for the duration of the closure period as specified in the closure notice.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Rejection of an application to close a list of patients

34.—(1) Where [F1NHS England] rejects an application to close a contractor's list of patients, [F1NHS England] must—

- (a) give notice in writing to the contractor of its decision as soon as possible and the notice must include [F1NHS England's] reasons for rejecting the application; and
- (b) at the same time as [F1NHS England] gives notice to the contractor, send a copy of the notice to—
 - (i) the Local Medical Committee (if any) for the area in which the contractor provides services under the agreement, and
 - (ii) any person who [F1NHS England] consulted in accordance with paragraph 32(8).

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), if [F1NHS England] decides to reject an application from a contractor to close its list of patients, the contractor may not make a further application to close its list of patients until whichever is the later of—

- (a) the end of the period of three months beginning with the date on which [F1NHS England's] decision to reject the application was made; or
- (b) in a case where a dispute arising from [F1NHS England's] decision to reject the application has been referred to the NHS dispute resolution procedure, the end of the period of three months beginning with the date on which a final determination to reject the application was made in accordance with that procedure (or any court proceedings).

(3) A contractor may make a further application to close its list of patients where there has been a change in the circumstances of the contractor which affects the contractor's ability to deliver services under the agreement.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

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Application for an extension of the closure period

35.—(1) A contractor may apply to extend the closure period by sending a written application (“the application”) to that effect to [F1NHS England] no later than eight weeks before the date on which the closure period is due to expire.

(2) The application must include the following information—

- (a) details of the options which the contractor has considered, rejected or implemented in an attempt to alleviate the difficulties which have been encountered during the closure period or which may be encountered when the closure period expires;
- (b) the period of time during which the contractor wants its list of patients to remain closed (which may not be longer than 12 months);
- (c) details of any reasonable support from [F1NHS England] which the contractor considers would enable the contractor's list of patients to re-open or would enable the proposed extension to the closure period to be minimised;
- (d) details of any plans which the contractor may have to alleviate the difficulties mentioned in the application to extend the closure period in order for the list of patients to re-open at the end of the proposed extension of the closure period without the existence of those difficulties; and
- (e) any other information which the contractor considers ought to be drawn to the attention of [F1NHS England].

(3) [F1NHS England] must acknowledge receipt of the application before the end of the period of seven days beginning with the date on which the application was received by [F1NHS England].

(4) [F1NHS England] must consider the application and may request such other information from the contractor as it requires in order to enable it to decide the application.

(5) [F1NHS England] may enter into discussions with the contractor concerning—

- (a) the support which [F1NHS England] may give to the contractor; or
- (b) any changes which [F1NHS England] or the contractor may make,

which would enable the contractor to re-open its list of patients.

(6) [F1NHS England] must determine the application before the end of the period of 14 days beginning with the date on which [F1NHS England] received that application (or before the end of such longer period as the parties may agree).

(7) [F1NHS England] must give notice in writing to the contractor of its decision to approve or reject the application as soon as possible after making that decision.

(8) Where [F1NHS England] approves the application, [F1NHS England] must—

- (a) give notice in writing to the contractor of its decision (“the extended closure notice”) which must include the details specified in sub-paragraph (9); and
- (b) at the same time as it gives notice in writing to the contractor, send a copy of the extended closure notice to—
 - (i) the Local Medical Committee (if any) for the area in which the contractor provides services under the agreement, and
 - (ii) any person who [F1NHS England] consulted in accordance with paragraph 32(8).

(9) The extended closure notice must include—

- (a) the period of time for which the contractor's list of patients is to remain closed which must be—

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- (i) the period specified in the application, or
 - (ii) where [F1NHS England] and contractor have agreed in writing a different period to the period specified in that application, that agreed period,
- and, in either case, the period (“the extended closure period”) must not be less than three months and not more than 12 months beginning with the date on which the extended closure period is to take effect ;
- (b) the date on which the extended closure period is to take effect; and
 - (c) the date on which the contractor's list of patients is to re-open.
- (10) Where [F1NHS England] rejects an application, [F1NHS England] must—
- (a) give notice in writing to the contractor of its decision which must include its reasons for rejecting the application; and
 - (b) at the same time as it gives notice to the contractor, send a copy of the notice to the Local Medical Committee (if any) for the area in which the contractor provides services under the agreement.
- (11) Where an application is made in accordance with sub-paragraphs (1) and (2), the contractor's list of patients is to remain closed pending whichever is the later of—
- (a) the determination by [F1NHS England] of that application; or
 - (b) in a case where a dispute arising from [F1NHS England's] decision to reject the application has been referred to the NHS dispute resolution procedure, the contractor ceasing to pursue that dispute through that procedure (or any court proceedings).

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Re-opening of list of patients

36. The contractor may re-open its list of patients before the expiry of the closure period if [F1NHS England] and the contractor agree that the contractor should do so.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

PART 4

Assignment of patients to lists

Application of this Part

- [F50]37.—(1) This Part applies in respect of the assignment by [F1NHS England] of—
- (a) a person as a new patient to a contractor's list of patients where that person—

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- (i) has been refused inclusion in a contractor’s list of patients or has not been accepted as a temporary resident by a contractor, and
- (ii) would like to be included in the list of a contractor in whose [F51]integrated care board] area that person resides;
- (b) any person who is part of a list dispersal resulting from the closure of a practice where that person—
 - (i) has not registered with another contractor, and
 - (ii) would like to be included in the list of patients of a contractor in whose [F51]integrated care board] area that person resides;
- (c) any person who is part of a list dispersal resulting from the closure of a practice where that person has not registered with another contractor and [F1]NHS England] has been unable to contact that person.

(2) In this paragraph, “list dispersal” means the allocation of patients from a contractor’s list of patients by [F1]NHS England] following termination of the contract or during the period set out in the notice of termination or agreement to terminate.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), [Sch. para. 1](#)
- F50** Sch. 2 para. 37 substituted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), [Sch. 2 para. 11](#)
- F51** Words in Regulations substituted (1.7.2022) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Consequential and Related Amendments and Transitional Provisions\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/634\)](#), reg. 1(2), Sch. para. 1(1)(3) (with Sch. para. 1(2))

Assignment of patients to list of patients: open and closed lists

- 38.**—(1) Subject to paragraph 39, [F1]NHS England] may—
- (a) assign a new patient to a contractor whose list of patients is open; and
 - (b) only assign a new patient to a contractor whose list of patients is closed in the circumstances specified in sub-paragraph (2).
- (2) The circumstances specified in this sub-paragraph are where—
- (a) the assessment panel has determined under paragraph 40(7) that new patients may be assigned to the contractor in question, and that determination has not been overturned either by a determination of the Secretary of State under paragraph 41(13) or (where applicable) by a court; and
 - (b) [F1]NHS England] has entered into discussions with the contractor in question regarding the assignment of new patients if such discussions are required under paragraph 42.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), [Sch. para. 1](#)

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

Factors relevant to assignments

39. When assigning a person as a new patient to a contractor's list of patients under paragraph 38(1)(a) or (b), [F¹NHS England] must have regard to—

- (a) the preferences and circumstances of the person;
- (b) the distance between the person's place of residence and the contractor's practice premises;
- (c) any request made by a contractor to remove the person from its list of patients within the preceding period of six months beginning with the date on which the application for assignment is received by [F¹NHS England];
- (d) whether, during the preceding period of six months beginning with the date on which the application for assignment is received by [F¹NHS England], the person has been removed from a list of patients on the grounds referred to in—
 - (i) paragraph 23 (relating to circumstances in which a patient may be removed from a contractor's list of patients at the request of the contractor),
 - (ii) paragraph 24 (relating to circumstances in which a patient who is violent may be removed from a contractor's list of patients), or
 - (iii) the equivalent provisions to those paragraphs in relation to arrangements made under section 83(2) of the Act ^{M21} (which relates to the provision of primary medical services) or under a contract made in accordance with the General Medical Services Contracts Regulations;
- (e) in a case to which sub-paragraph (d)(ii) applies (or to which the equivalent provisions as mentioned in sub-paragraph (d)(iii) apply), whether the contractor has appropriate facilities to deal with such patients; and
- (f) such other matters as [F¹NHS England] considers relevant.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Marginal Citations

M21 Section 83 was amended by paragraph 30 of Schedule 4 to the [Health and Social Care Act 2012 \(c.7\)](#)

[F⁵²Assignment of patients from outside practice area

39A. Where [F¹NHS England] has assigned a person to a contractor's list of patients in accordance with this Part, and that person resides outside a contractor's practice area, regulation 25(4), (5) and (6) (variation of contracts: registered patients from outside practice area) are to apply as if the contractor had accepted that patient onto its list of patients in accordance with regulation 25(1), unless a contractor chooses to include that person in its list of patients for its practice area on assignment by [F¹NHS England].]

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

F52 Sch. 2 para. 39A inserted (E.) (1.10.2020) by The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2020 (S.I. 2020/911), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 12**

Assignments to closed lists: composition and determinations of the assessment panel

40.—(1) Where [F1NHS England] wants to assign a new patient to a contractor which has closed its lists of patients, [F1NHS England] must prepare a proposal to be considered by the assessment panel.

(2) [F1NHS England] must give notice in writing to—

(a) contractors, including those contractors who provide primary medical services in accordance with arrangements made under section 83(2) of the Act (primary medical services) or under a contract made in accordance with the General Medical Services Contracts Regulations, which—

(i) have closed their lists of patients, and

(ii) may, in the opinion of [F1NHS England], be affected by the determination of the assessment panel; and

(b) the Local Medical Committee (if any) for the area in which the contractors referred to in paragraph (a) provide essential services (or their equivalent),

that it has referred the matter to the assessment panel.

(3) [F1NHS England] must ensure that the assessment panel is appointed to consider and determine the proposal made under sub-paragraph (1), and the composition of the assessment panel must be as described in sub-paragraph (4).

(4) The members of the assessment panel must be—

(a) a member of [F1NHS England] who is a director;

(b) a patient representative who is a member of the Local Health and Wellbeing Board ^{M22} or Local Healthwatch organisation ^{M23};

(c) a member of a Local Medical Committee but not a member of the Local Medical Committee (if any) for the area in which the contractors who may be assigned patients as a consequence of the panel's determination provide essential services.

(5) In reaching its determination, the assessment panel must have regard to all relevant factors including—

(a) whether [F1NHS England] has attempted to secure the provision of essential services (or their equivalent) for new patients other than by means of assignment to a contractor with a closed list; and

(b) the workload of those contractors likely to be affected by any decision to assign such patients to their list of patients.

(6) The assessment panel must reach a determination before the end of the period of 28 days beginning with the date on which the panel was appointed.

(7) The assessment panel must—

(a) determine whether [F1NHS England] may assign new patients to a contractor which has a closed list of patients; and

(b) if it determines that [F1NHS England] may make such an assignment, determine, where there is more than one contractor, the contractors to which patients may be assigned.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

(8) The assessment panel may determine that [^{F1}NHS England] may assign new patients to contractors other than any of the contractors specified in its proposals under sub-paragraph (1), as long as the contractors were given notice in writing under sub-paragraph (2)(a).

(9) The assessment panel's determination must include its comments on the matters referred to in sub-paragraph (5), and notice in writing of that determination must be given to those contractor's referred to in sub-paragraph (2)(a).

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Marginal Citations

M22 See section 194 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 which requires a local authority to establish a Health and Wellbeing Board for its area.

M23 Local Healthwatch organisations are bodies corporate with which a local authority may enter into arrangements under section 222 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in [Health Act 2007 \(c.28\)](#) for the purpose of discharging its functions. Section 222 was amended by section 183 of, and Schedules 5 and 14 to, the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Assignments to closed lists: NHS dispute resolution procedure relating to determinations of the assessment panel

41.—(1) Where an assessment panel makes a determination under paragraph 40(7)(a) that [^{F1}NHS England] may assign new patients to contractors who have closed their lists of patients, any contractor specified in the determination may refer the matter to the Secretary of State to review that determination.

(2) Where a matter is referred to the Secretary of State under sub-paragraph (1), it must be reviewed in accordance with the procedure specified in the following sub-paragraphs.

(3) Where more than one contractor specified in the determination would like to refer the matter for dispute resolution, those contractors may, if they all agree, refer the matter jointly and, in that case, the Secretary of State must review the matter in relation to those contractors together.

(4) The contractor (or contractors) must send to the Secretary of State, before the end of the period of seven days beginning with the date of the determination of the assessment panel in accordance with paragraph 40(7)(a), a written request for dispute resolution which must include or be accompanied by—

- (a) the names and addresses of the parties to the dispute;
- (b) a copy of the agreement (or agreements); and
- (c) a brief statement describing the nature of and circumstances giving rise to the dispute.

(5) The Secretary of State must, before the end of the period of seven days beginning with the date on which the matter was referred to the Secretary of State—

- (a) give notice in writing to the parties that the Secretary of State is dealing with the matter; and
- (b) include with the notice a written request to the parties to make, in writing before the end of a specified period, any representations which those parties would like to make about the dispute.

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(6) The Secretary of State must give, with the notice under sub-paragraph (5), to the party other than the one which referred the matter to dispute resolution, a copy of any document by which the dispute was referred to dispute resolution.

(7) The Secretary of State must, upon receiving any representations from a party—

- (a) give a copy of those representations to each other party; and
- (b) request, in writing, that each party to which a copy of those representations is given makes, before the end of a specified period, any written observations which they would like to make about those representations.

(8) The Secretary of State may—

- (a) invite representatives of the parties to appear before, and make oral representations to, the Secretary of State either together or, with the agreement of the parties, separately, and may, in advance, provide the parties with a list of matters or questions to which the Secretary of State would like them to give special consideration; or
- (b) consult other persons whose expertise the Secretary of State considers is likely to assist the Secretary of State's consideration of the dispute.

(9) Where the Secretary of State consults another person under sub-paragraph (8)(b), the Secretary of State must—

- (a) give notice in writing to that effect to the parties; and
- (b) where the Secretary of State considers that the interests of any party might be substantially affected by the result of the consultation, give to the parties such opportunity as the Secretary of State considers reasonable in the circumstances to make observations about those results.

(10) In considering the dispute, the Secretary of State must take into account—

- (a) any written representations made in response to a request under sub-paragraph (5)(b), but only if they are made before the end of the specified period;
- (b) any written observations made in response to a request under sub-paragraph (7), but only if they are made before the end of the specified period;
- (c) any oral representations made in response to an invitation under sub-paragraph (8)(a);
- (d) the results of any consultation under sub-paragraph (8)(b); and
- (e) any observations made in accordance with an opportunity given under sub-paragraph (9).

(11) Subject to the other provisions of this paragraph and to any agreement between the parties, the Secretary of State may determine the procedure which is to apply to the dispute resolution in such manner as the Secretary of State considers appropriate in order to ensure the just, expeditious, economical and final determination of the dispute.

(12) In this paragraph, “specified period” means—

- (a) such period as the Secretary of State specifies in the request being a period of not less than one week or not more than two weeks beginning with the date on which the notice referred to is given; or
- (b) such longer period as the Secretary of State may allow for the determination of the dispute where the period for determination of the dispute has been extended in accordance with sub-paragraph (16) and where the Secretary of State does so allow, a reference in this paragraph to the specified period is to the period as so extended.

(13) Subject to sub-paragraph (16), the Secretary of State must—

- (a) determine the dispute before the end of the period of 21 days beginning with the date on which the matter was referred to the Secretary of State;

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

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- (b) determine whether [F1NHS England] may assign new patients to contractors which have closed their lists of patients; and
 - (c) if the Secretary of State determines that [F1NHS England] may assign new patients to such contractors, determine the contractors to which such new patients may be assigned.
- (14) The Secretary of State must not determine that patients may be assigned to a contractor which was not specified in the determination of the assessment panel under paragraph 40(7)(b).
- (15) In the case of a matter referred jointly by contractors in accordance with sub-paragraph (3), the Secretary of State may determine that patients may be assigned to one, some or all of the contractors which referred the matter.
- (16) The period of 21 days referred to in sub-paragraph (13) may be extended (even after it has expired) by a further specified number of days if an agreement to that effect is reached by—
- (a) the Secretary of State;
 - (b) [F1NHS England]; and
 - (c) the contractor (or contractors) which referred the matter to dispute resolution.
- (17) The Secretary of State must—
- (a) record the determination, and the reasons for it, in writing; and
 - (b) give notice in writing of the determination (including the record of the reasons) to the parties.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Assignments to closed lists: assignments of patients by [F1NHS England]

- 42.**—(1) Before [F1NHS England] assigns a new patient to a contractor, [F1NHS England] must, subject to sub-paragraph (3)—
- (a) enter into discussions with the contractor regarding the additional support that [F1NHS England] can offer the contractor; and
 - (b) use its best endeavours to provide such appropriate support.
- (2) In the discussions referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(a), both parties must use reasonable endeavours to reach agreement.
- (3) The requirement in sub-paragraph (1)(a) to enter into discussions applies—
- (a) to the first assignment of a patient to a particular contractor; and
 - (b) to any subsequent assignment to that contractor to the extent that it is reasonable and appropriate having regard to—
 - (i) the numbers of patients who have or may be assigned to it, and
 - (ii) the period of time since the last discussions under sub-paragraph (1)(a) took place.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

PART 5

Sub-contracting

Sub-contracting of clinical matters

43.—(1) The contractor must not sub-contract any of its rights or duties under the agreement in relation to clinical matters to any person unless it has taken reasonable steps to satisfy itself that—

- (a) it is reasonable in all the circumstances to do so;
- (b) the person to whom any of those rights or duties is sub-contracted is qualified and competent to provide the service; and
- (c) the person holds adequate insurance in accordance with regulation 83.

(2) Where the contractor sub-contracts any of its rights or duties under the agreement in relation to clinical matters, it must—

- (a) inform [F1NHS England] of the sub-contract as soon as reasonably practicable; and
- (b) provide [F1NHS England] with such information in relation to the sub-contract as [F1NHS England] may reasonably request.

(3) Where the contractor sub-contracts clinical services under sub-paragraph (1), the parties to the agreement are deemed to have agreed a variation to the agreement which has the effect of adding to the list of the contractor's premises any premises which are to be used by the sub-contractor [F53as practice premises] for the purposes of the sub-contract and, in these circumstances, regulation 24(1) does not apply.

(4) [F54Subject to sub-paragraph (4A), a contractor] must ensure that any person with whom it sub-contracts is prohibited from sub-contracting the clinical services which that person has agreed with the contractor to provide.

[F55(4A) A sub-contract entered into by a contractor may allow the sub-contractor to sub-contract clinical services the contractor has agreed to provide under the Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service Scheme, pursuant to direction 4 of the Primary Medical Services (Directed Enhanced Services) Directions 2020, provided the contractor has obtained the written approval of [F1NHS England] prior to the sub-contractor sub-contracting those services.]

(5) The contractor, if it has a list of registered patients or a list of registered patients is held in respect of it, must not sub-contract any of its rights or duties under the agreement in relation to the provision of essential services to a company or firm that is—

- (a) wholly or partly owned by the contractor, or by any former or current employee of, or partner or shareholder in, the contractor;
- (b) formed by or on behalf of the contractor, or from which the contractor derives a pecuniary benefit; or
- (c) formed by or on behalf of a former or current employee of, or partner or shareholder in, the contractor, or from which such a person derives or may derive a pecuniary benefit,

where sub-paragraph (6) applies to that company or firm.

(6) This sub-paragraph applies to a company or firm which is or was formed wholly or partly for the purpose of avoiding the restrictions on the sale of goodwill of a medical practice in section 259^{M24} of the Act (sale of medical practices) and Schedule 21 to the Act (prohibition of sale of medical practices) or in any regulations made wholly or partly under those provisions.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F53** Words in [Sch. 2 para. 43\(3\)](#) inserted (1.10.2022) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 3\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/935\)](#), reg. 1(b), **Sch. 2 para. 7(4)**
- F54** Words in [Sch. 2 para. 43\(4\)](#) substituted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 13(a)**
- F55** [Sch. 2 para. 43\(4A\)](#) inserted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 13(b)**

Marginal Citations

- M24** Section 259 was amended by paragraph 131 of Schedule 4 to the [Health and Social Care Act 2012 \(c.7\)](#).

PART 6

[^{F56}Provision of information: practice leaflet, use of NHS primary care logo, marketing campaigns and advertising private services]

Textual Amendments

- F56** [Sch. 2 Pt. 6 heading](#) substituted (1.10.2019) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/1137\)](#), regs. 1(2), **30**

Information to be included in a practice leaflet

- 44.** A practice leaflet must include—
- (a) the name of the contractor;
 - (b) in the case of an agreement with a qualifying body—
 - (i) the names of the directors, the company secretary and the shareholders of that qualifying body, and
 - (ii) the address of that qualifying body's registered office;
 - (c) the contractor's telephone, fax number and website address [^{F57}or the address at which its online practice profile is available];
 - (d) the full name of each person performing services under the agreement;
 - (e) the professional qualifications of each health care professional providing services under the agreement;
 - (f) whether the contractor undertakes the teaching or training of health care professionals or persons intending to become health care professionals;
 - (g) whether the contractor provides essential services in its practice area, including the area known as the outer boundary area (within the meaning given in regulation 13(2)) by

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- reference to ^{F58}an image of the practice area, a written description of the practice area or a digital practice area map];
- (h) the address of each of the contractor's ^{F59}practice premises];
 - (i) the access arrangements which the contractor's ^{F59}practice premises] have for providing services to disabled patients and, if none, the alternative arrangements for providing services to such patients;
 - (j) how to register as a patient;
 - (k) the right of patients to express a preference of practitioner in accordance with paragraph 21 and the means of expressing such a preference;
 - (l) the services available under the agreement;
 - (m) the opening hours of the contractor's ^{F59}practice premises] and the method of obtaining access to services throughout the core hours;
 - (n) the criteria for home visits and the method of obtaining such a visit;
 - (o) the arrangements for services in the out of hours period (whether or not provided by the contractor) and how the patient may access such services;
 - (p) where the services referred to in sub-paragraph (o) are not provided by the contractor, the fact that ^{F1}NHS England] is responsible for commissioning the services;
 - (q) information about the assignment by the contractor to its new and existing patients of an accountable GP in accordance with paragraph 15;
 - (r) information about the assignment by the contractor to its patients aged 75 and over of an accountable GP under paragraph 16;
 - (s) the telephone number of the 111 service;
 - (t) the method by which patients are to obtain repeat prescriptions;
 - (u) if the contractor offers repeatable prescribing services, the arrangements for providing such services;
 - (v) if the contractor is a dispensing contractor, the arrangements for dispensing prescriptions;
 - (w) how patients may make a complaint or comment on the provision of services;
 - (x) the rights and responsibilities of the patient, including keeping appointments;
 - (y) the action that may be taken where a patient is violent or abusive to a party to the agreement who is an individual, any member of the contractor's staff or other persons present on the contractor's ^{F59}practice premises] or in the place where treatment is provided under the agreement;
 - (z) details of who has access to patient information (including information from which the identity of the individual can be ascertained) and the rights of patients in relation to the disclosure of such information; and
- (aa) the full name, postal and e mail address and telephone number of ^{F1}NHS England] from whom details of primary medical services in the area may be obtained.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F57** Words in [Sch. 2 para. 44\(c\)](#) substituted (1.4.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/226\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 11(3)**

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- F58** Words in Sch. 2 para. 44(g) substituted (27.5.2024) by The National Health Service (Primary Medical Services and Performers Lists) (Amendment) Regulations 2024 (S.I. 2024/575), reg. 1(2)(a), **Sch. 2 para. 1(3)**
- F59** Words in Sch. 2 para. 44 substituted (1.10.2022) by The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements) (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2022 (S.I. 2022/935), reg. 1(b), **Sch. 2 para. 7(5)**

[^{F60}Use of NHS primary care logo

44A. Where a contractor chooses to apply the NHS primary care logo to signage, stationery, leaflets, posters, its practice website or to any other form of written representation relating to the primary care services it provides, it must have regard to guidance concerning use of the NHS primary care logo produced by [^{F1}NHS England].

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by The Health and Care Act 2022 (Further Consequential Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1071), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F60** Sch. 2 paras. 44A-44C inserted (1.10.2019) by The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/1137), regs. 1(2), **31**

Marketing campaigns

44B. The contractor must participate in a manner reasonably requested by [^{F1}NHS England] in up to 6 marketing campaigns in each financial year.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by The Health and Care Act 2022 (Further Consequential Amendments) (No. 2) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/1071), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F60** Sch. 2 paras. 44A-44C inserted (1.10.2019) by The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/1137), regs. 1(2), **31**

Advertising private services

44C. The contractor must not advertise the provision of private services, either itself or through any other person, whether the contractor provides the services itself or they are provided by another person, by any written or electronic means where the same are used to advertise the primary medical services it provides.]

Textual Amendments

- F60** Sch. 2 paras. 44A-44C inserted (1.10.2019) by The National Health Service (General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/1137), regs. 1(2), **31**

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PART 7

Notice requirements and rights of entry

Notices to [F1NHS England]

45. In addition to any requirements to give notice elsewhere in these Regulations, the contractor must give notice in writing to [F1NHS England] as soon as reasonably practicable of—

- (a) any serious incident that, in the reasonable opinion of the contractor, affects or is likely to affect the contractor's performance of its obligations under the agreement;
- (b) any circumstances which give rise to [F1NHS England's] right to terminate the agreement under paragraph 57 or 58;
- (c) any appointments system which the contractor proposes to operate and the proposed discontinuance of any such system;
- (d) any change in the address of a registered patient of which the contractor is aware; and
- (e) the death of any patient of which the contractor is aware.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Notice provisions specific to an agreement with a qualifying body

46.—(1) Where a qualifying body is a party to the agreement, the contractor must give notice in writing to [F1NHS England] as soon as—

- (a) any share in the qualifying body is transmitted or transferred (whether legally or beneficially) to another person on a date after the date on which the agreement was entered into;
- (b) a new director or secretary of the qualifying body is appointed;
- (c) the qualifying body passes a resolution, or a court of competent jurisdiction makes an order, that the qualifying body be wound up;
- (d) circumstances arise which might entitle a creditor or a court to appoint a receiver, administrator or administrative receiver for the qualifying body;
- (e) circumstances arise which would enable the court to make a winding up order in respect of the qualifying body; or
- (f) the qualifying body is unable to pay its debts within the meaning of section 123 of the Insolvency Act 1986 ^{M25} (definition of inability to pay debts).

(2) A notice under paragraph (1)(a) must confirm that the new shareholder, or, as the case may be, the personal representative of a deceased shareholder—

- (a) falls within section 93(1) of the Act ^{M26} (persons with whom agreements may be made); and
- (b) meets the further conditions imposed on shareholders by virtue of regulation 5.

(3) A notice under paragraph (1)(b) must confirm that the new director, or, as the case may be, secretary meets the conditions imposed on directors and secretaries by virtue of regulation 5.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Marginal Citations

- M25** 1986 c.45. Section 123 was modified by section 90 of, and Schedule 15 to, the [Building Societies Act 1986 \(c.5\)](#), and by the section 23 of, and Schedule 10 to, the [Friendly Societies Act 1992 \(c.40\)](#).
- M26** Section 93 was amended by paragraph 37 of Schedule 4 to the [Health and Social Care Act 2012 \(c.7\)](#).

Notice of deaths

47.—(1) The contractor must give notice in writing to [^{F1}NHS England] of the death on its practice premises of a patient no later than the end of the first working day after the date on which that death occurred.

- (2) The notice given under sub-paragraph (1) must include—
- (a) the patient's full name;
 - (b) the patient's National Health Service number (where known);
 - (c) the date and place of the patient's death;
 - (d) a brief description of the circumstances (as known) surrounding the patient's death;
 - (e) the name of any medical practitioner or other person treating the patient while the patient was on the contractor's practice premises; and
 - (f) the name (where known) of any other person who was present at the time of the patient's death.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Notices given to patients following variation of the agreement

48.—(1) This paragraph applies where an agreement is varied in accordance with regulation 24 and Part 8 of this Schedule and, as a result of that variation—

- (a) there is to be a change in the range of services provided to the contractor's registered patients; or
 - (b) patients who are on the contractor's list of patients are to be removed from that list.
- (2) Where this paragraph applies, [^{F1}NHS England] must—
- (a) give notice in writing to those patients of that variation and of its effect; and
 - (b) inform those patients of the steps that they may take to—
 - (i) obtain the services in question elsewhere, or
 - (ii) register elsewhere for the provision to them of essential services (or their equivalent).

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Entry and inspection by [^{F1}NHS England]

49.—(1) Subject to the conditions specified in sub-paragraph (2), the contractor must allow any person authorised in writing by [^{F1}NHS England] to enter and inspect the contractor's practice premises at any reasonable time.

(2) The conditions specified in this sub-paragraph are that—

- (a) reasonable notice of the intended entry has been given;
- (b) written evidence of the authority of the person seeking entry is produced to the contractor on request; and
- (c) entry is not made to any premises or part of the premises used as residential accommodation without the consent of the resident.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Entry and inspection by the Care Quality Commission

50. The contractor must allow persons authorised by the Care Quality Commission to enter and inspect the contractor's practice premises in accordance with section 62 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 ^{M27} (entry and inspection).

Marginal Citations

- M27** [2008 c.14.](#)

Entry and inspection by Local Healthwatch organisations

51. The contractor must comply with the requirement to allow an authorised representative to enter and view premises and observe the carrying on of activities on those premises in accordance with regulations made under section 225 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 ^{M28} (duties of service-providers to allow entry by Local Healthwatch organisations or contractors).

Marginal Citations

- M28** [2007 c.28.](#) See section 225(5) for the meaning of “authorised representative”. Section 225 was amended by section 179 of, and Schedule 14 to, the [Health and Social Care Act 2014 \(c.7\)](#) (“the 2012 Act”); section 186(6) to (11) of, and Schedule 5 to, the 2012 Act; and paragraphs 148 to 151 of Schedule 5 to the 2012 Act.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

PART 8

Variation and termination of agreements

Variation of an agreement

52.—(1) Subject to Part 6 and to paragraphs 43(3) and 64 of Schedule 2, a variation of, or amendment to, an agreement is not effective unless it is in writing and signed by or on behalf of [F1NHS England] and the contractor.

(2) [F1NHS England] may vary the agreement without the contractor's consent where—

- (a) it is reasonably satisfied that the variation is necessary in order to comply with the Act, any regulations made under or by virtue of the Act, or any direction given by the Secretary of State under or by virtue of the Act; and
- (b) it gives notice in writing to the contractor of the wording of the proposed variation and the date on which that variation is to take effect.

(3) The date on which the proposed variation referred to in sub-paragraph (2)(b) is to take effect must, unless it is not reasonably practicable, be a date which falls at least 14 days after the date on which the notice under that sub-paragraph is given to the contractor.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Termination by agreement

53. [F1NHS England] and the contractor may agree in writing to terminate the agreement, and if the parties so agree, they must agree the date upon which that termination is to take effect and any further terms upon which the agreement is to be terminated.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Termination on death of the contractor

54.—(1) Where the agreement is with an individual medical practitioner and that medical practitioner dies, the agreement terminates at the end of the period of seven days beginning with the date of the contractor's death unless sub-paragraph (2) applies.

(2) This sub-paragraph applies where, before the end of the period of seven days referred to in sub-paragraph (1), [F1NHS England] agrees in writing with the contractor's personal representatives that the agreement should continue for a further period, not exceeding 28 days, from the end of the period of seven days.

(3) This paragraph does not affect any other rights to terminate the agreement which [F1NHS England] may have under paragraphs 57 to 60.

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Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Termination by giving notice

55.—(1) The contractor or [F1NHS England] may at any time terminate the agreement by giving notice in writing to the other party or parties to the agreement.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraphs (3) and (4), notice given under sub-paragraph (1) must specify the date on which the termination is to take effect and the agreement terminates on the date so specified.

(3) Where the period of notice in relation to the termination (which must be a period of at least six months) has previously been agreed between the parties and provided for in the agreement, the date of termination specified in the notice must be calculated in accordance with the agreed period of notice.

(4) Where a period of notice in relation to the termination has not previously been agreed between the parties and provided for in the agreement, the period of notice required must be six months and the date of termination specified in the notice must be calculated accordingly and the agreement terminates on the date so calculated.

(5) This paragraph does not affect any other rights to terminate the agreement which the contractor and [F1NHS England] may have.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Late payment notices

56.—(1) The contractor may give notice in writing (a “late payment notice”) to [F1NHS England] if [F1NHS England] has failed to make any payments due to the contractor in accordance with a term of the agreement regarding prompt payments which has the effect specified in regulation 16(1), and the contractor must specify in the late payment notice the payments that [F1NHS England] has failed to make in accordance with that term.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (4), the contractor may, at least 28 days after the date on which a late payment notice under sub-paragraph (1) was given, terminate the agreement by giving a further written notice to [F1NHS England] in the event of [F1NHS England’s] continuing failure to make the payments that are due to the contractor as specified in the late payment notice.

(3) Sub-paragraph (4) applies if, following receipt of a late payment notice, [F1NHS England]—

- (a) refers the matter to the NHS dispute resolution procedure before the end of a period of 28 days beginning with the date on which [F1NHS England] received the late payment notice; and
- (b) gives notice in writing to the contractor that it has done so before the end of that period.

(4) Where this sub-paragraph applies, the contractor may not terminate the agreement in accordance with sub-paragraph (2) until—

- (a) there has been a final determination of the dispute under the NHS dispute resolution procedure and that determination permits the contractor to terminate the agreement; or

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(b) [F1NHS England] ceases to pursue the NHS dispute resolution procedure, whichever is the earlier.

(5) This paragraph does not affect any other rights to terminate the agreement that the contractor may have.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Termination by [F1NHS England] for the provision of untrue etc. information

57.—(1) Where sub-paragraph (2) applies, [F1NHS England] may give notice in writing to the contractor terminating the agreement with immediate effect, or from such date as may be specified in the notice.

(2) This sub-paragraph applies if, after the agreement was entered into, it comes to [F1NHS England's] attention that written information—

- (a) provided to [F1NHS England] by the contractor before the agreement was entered into; or
- (b) included in a notice given to [F1NHS England] under paragraph 46(1)(a) or (b),

relating to the conditions set out in regulation 5 (and compliance with those conditions) was, when given, untrue or inaccurate in a material respect.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Other grounds for termination by [F1NHS England]

58.—(1) [F1NHS England] may give notice in writing to a contractor terminating the agreement with immediate effect, or from such date as may be specified in the notice, if sub-paragraph (4) applies to the contractor—

- (a) during the existence of the agreement; or
- (b) if later, on or after the date on which a notice in respect of the contractor's compliance with the conditions in regulation 5 was given under paragraph 46(1)(a) or (b).

(2) Sub-paragraph (4) applies—

- (a) where a contractor who is an individual medical practitioner is a party to the agreement, to that medical practitioner; or
- (b) where the agreement is with a contractor which is a qualifying body, to—
 - (i) the qualifying body,
 - (ii) any person both legally and beneficially owning a share in the qualifying body, or
 - (iii) any director or secretary of the qualifying body.

(3) In the case of a person who is a party to an agreement made before 1st April 2004 which is deemed to be an agreement made under section 92 of the Act, the reference to “during the existence

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of the agreement” in sub-paragraph (1) is to be construed as excluding any period before 1st April 2004.

- (4) This sub-paragraph applies if—
- (a) the contractor is the subject of a national disqualification;
 - (b) subject to sub-paragraph (5), the contractor has been disqualified or suspended (other than by an interim suspension order or direction pending an investigation or a suspension on the grounds of ill-health) from practising by a licensing body anywhere in the world;
 - (c) subject to sub-paragraph (6), the contractor has been dismissed (otherwise than by reason of redundancy) from any employment by a health service body unless, before [F1NHS England] has given notice to the contractor terminating the agreement under this paragraph, the contractor is employed by the health service body from which the contractor was dismissed or by another health service body;
 - (d) the contractor has been removed from, or refused admission to, a primary care list by reason of inefficiency, fraud or unsuitability (within the meaning of section 151(2), (3) and (4) of the Act ^{M29} respectively) unless the contractor's name has subsequently been included in such a list;
 - (e) the contractor has been convicted in the United Kingdom of murder;
 - (f) the contractor has been convicted in the United Kingdom of a criminal offence other than murder and has been sentenced to a term of imprisonment of longer than six months;
 - (g) subject to sub-paragraph (7), the contractor has been convicted elsewhere of an offence which would, if committed in England and Wales constitute murder, and—
 - (i) the offence was committed on or after 14th December 2001, and
 - (ii) the contractor was sentenced to a term of imprisonment of longer than six months;
 - (h) the contractor has been convicted of an offence referred to in Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 ^{M30} (offences against children and young persons, with respect to which special provisions of this Act apply) or Schedule 1 to the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1955 ^{M31} (offences against children under the age of 17 years to which special provisions apply);
 - (i) the contractor has at any time been included in—
 - (i) any barred list within the meaning of section 2 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 ^{M32} (barred lists), or
 - (ii) any barred list within the meaning of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups (Northern Ireland) Order 2007 ^{M33} (barred lists),unless the contractor was removed from the list either on the grounds that it was not appropriate for the contractor to have been included in it or as the result of a successful appeal;
 - (j) the contractor has within the period of 5 years before the signing of the agreement, been removed from the office of charity trustee or trustee for a charity by an order made by the Charity Commission, the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland or the High Court, and that order was made on the grounds of misconduct or mismanagement in the administration of a charity for which the contractor was responsible or to which the contractor was privy, or which was contributed to, or facilitated by, the contractor's conduct;
 - (k) the contractor has, within the period of five years before the signing of the agreement or the commencement of the agreement, whichever is the earlier, been removed from being concerned with the management or control of any body in any case where removal was

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by virtue of section 34(5)(e) of the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005^{M34} (powers of Court of Session);

- (l) the contractor—
 - (i) has been [^{F61}made] bankrupt and has not been discharged from the bankruptcy or the bankruptcy order has not been annulled, or
 - (ii) has had sequestration of the contractor's estate awarded and has not been discharged from the sequestration;
- (m) the contractor is the subject of a bankruptcy restrictions order or an interim bankruptcy restrictions order under Schedule 4A to the Insolvency Act 1986^{M35} (bankruptcy restrictions order and undertaking) or in Schedule 2A to the Insolvency (Northern Ireland) Order 1989^{M36} (bankruptcy restrictions order and undertaking), or sections 56A to 56K of the Bankruptcy (Scotland) Act 1985^{M37} (bankruptcy restrictions order, interim bankruptcy restrictions order and bankruptcy restrictions undertaking) unless the contractor has been discharged from that order or that order has been annulled;
- (n) the contractor—
 - (i) is subject to a moratorium period under a debt relief order under Part VIIA of the Insolvency Act 1986^{M38} (debt relief orders) applies, or
 - (ii) is the subject of a debt relief restrictions order or an interim debt relief restrictions order under Schedule 4ZB to that Act^{M39} (debt relief restrictions order and undertaking);
- (o) the contractor has made a composition agreement or arrangement with, or a trust deed has been granted for, the contractor's creditors and the contractor has not been discharged in respect of it;
- (p) the contractor is a company which has been wound up under Part IV of the Insolvency Act 1986^{M40} (winding up of companies registered under the Companies Acts);
- (q) an administrator, administrative receiver or receiver has been appointed in respect of the contractor;
- (r) the contractor has had an administration order made in respect of the contractor under Schedule B1 to the Insolvency Act 1986^{M41} (administration);
- (s) the contractor is subject to—
 - (i) a disqualification order under section 1 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986^{M42} (disqualification orders: general) or a disqualification undertaking under Section 1A of that Act^{M43} (disqualification undertakings: general), or
 - (ii) a disqualification order or disqualification undertaking under article 3 (disqualification orders: general) or article 4 (disqualification undertakings: general) of the Company Directors Disqualification (Northern Ireland) Order 2002^{M44} unless that order has ceased to have effect or has been annulled, or
 - (iii) a disqualification order under section 429(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986^{M45} (disabilities on revocation of an administration order against an individual);^{F62} ...
- (t) the contractor has refused to comply with a request made by [^{F1}NHS England] for the contractor to be medically examined because [^{F1}NHS England] is concerned that the contractor is incapable of adequately [^{F63}providing services under the agreement; or]
- ^{F64}(u) the contractor's registration with the Care Quality Commission has been cancelled in accordance with section 17(1) of the Health and Social Care Act 2008, and that

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cancellation is the final decision of the Commission, or, where an appeal has been launched, is the outcome of that appeal.]

(5) [F1NHS England] may not terminate the agreement in accordance with sub-paragraph (4)(b) where [F1NHS England] is satisfied that the disqualification or suspension imposed by a licensing body outside the United Kingdom does not make the contractor unsuitable to be—

- (a) a party to the agreement; or
- (b) in the case of an agreement with a qualifying body—
 - (i) a person both legally and beneficially owning a share in the qualifying body, or
 - (ii) a director or secretary of the qualifying body,

as the case may be.

(6) [F1NHS England] may not terminate the agreement in accordance with sub-paragraph (4)(c)—

- (a) until a period of at least three months has elapsed since the date of the dismissal of the person concerned; or
- (b) if, during the period specified in paragraph (a), the person concerned brings proceedings in any competent tribunal or court in respect of the dismissal, until proceedings before that tribunal or court are concluded,

and [F1NHS England] may only terminate the agreement at the end of the period specified in paragraph (b) if there is no finding of unfair dismissal at the end of those proceedings.

(7) [F1NHS England] must not terminate the agreement in accordance with sub-paragraph (4)(g) or, as the case may be (4)(h), where [F1NHS England] is satisfied that the conviction does not make the person unsuitable to be—

- (a) a party to the agreement; or
- (b) in the case of a qualifying body—
 - (i) a person both legally and beneficially owning a share in the qualifying body, or
 - (ii) a director or secretary of the qualifying body,

as the case may be.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**
- F61** Word in Sch. 2 Pt. 8 para. 58(4)(l)(i) substituted (6.4.2016) by [The Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 \(Consequential Amendments\) \(Bankruptcy\) and the Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015 \(Consequential Amendments\) Regulations 2016 \(S.I. 2016/481\)](#), reg. 1, **Sch. 2 para. 13**
- F62** Word in Sch. 2 para. 58(4) omitted (E.) (1.10.2020) by virtue of [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 14(a)**
- F63** Words in Sch. 2 para. 58(4)(t) substituted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 14(b)**
- F64** Sch. 2 para. 58(4)(u) inserted (E.) (1.10.2020) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2020 \(S.I. 2020/911\)](#), reg. 1(2), **Sch. 2 para. 14(c)**

Marginal Citations

- M29** Section 151 was amended by paragraph 79 of Schedule 4 to the [Health and Social Care Act 2012 \(c.7\)](#).

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- M30** 1933 c.12. Schedule 1 was amended by section 51 of, and Schedule 4 to, the [Sexual Offences Act 1956 \(c.99\)](#); section 170 of, and Schedule 10 to, the [Criminal Justice Act 1988 \(c.33\)](#); section 139 of, and Schedule 6 to, the [Sexual Offences Act 2003 \(c.42\)](#); section 58(1) of, and Schedule 10 to, the [Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 \(c.28\)](#); and section 115(1) of, and Schedule 10 to, the [Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 \(c. 9\)](#).
- M31** 1995 c.46.
- M32** 2006 c.47.
- M33** S.I. 2007/1351 (N.I.11)
- M34** 2005 asp 10.
- M35** 1986 c.45. Schedule 4A was inserted by section 257(2) of and Schedule 20 to the [Enterprise Act 2002 \(c.40\)](#).
- M36** S.I.1989/2405 (N.I. 19). Schedule 2A was inserted by article 13(2) of, and Schedule 5 to, S.I. 2005/455 (N.I.10)).
- M37** 1985 c.66. Sections 56A to 56K were inserted by the [Bankruptcy and Diligence etc. \(Scotland\) Act 2007 \(asp 3\)](#).
- M38** 1986 c.45. Part VIIA was inserted by section 108(1) of, and Schedule 17 to, the [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 \(c.15\)](#).
- M39** Schedule 4ZB was inserted by section 108(2) of, and Schedule 19 to, the [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007](#).
- M40** 1986 c.45. Part IV was substituted by S.I. 2009/1941.
- M41** 1986 c.45. Schedule B1 was inserted by section 248(2) of, and Schedule 16 to, the [Enterprise Act 2002 \(c.40\)](#).
- M42** 1986 c.46. Section 1 was amended by sections 5(1) and (2) and (8) of the [Insolvency Act 2000 \(c.40\)](#), [section 204\(1\)](#) and (3) of the [Enterprise Act 2002 \(c.40\)](#) and sections 111 and 164 of, and paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 7 to, the [Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015 \(c.26\)](#)
- M43** Section 1A was inserted by section 6(1) and (2) of the [Insolvency Act 2000 \(c.39\)](#), and was amended by section 111 of, and paragraphs 1, 3(1) and (2) of Schedule 7 to, the [Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015](#).
- M44** S.I. 2002/3150 (N.I. 4); as amended by S.I. 2004/347, S.I. 2005/1454 and 1455.
- M45** 1986 c.45. Section 429 was amended by section 269 of, and Schedule 3 to, the [Enterprise Act 2002](#), and section 106 of, and Schedule 16 to, the [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007](#).

Termination by [F1NHS England] where patients' safety is at risk or where there is risk of financial loss to [F1NHS England]

59. [F1NHS England] may give notice in writing to the contractor terminating the agreement with immediate effect from such date as may be specified in the notice if—

- (a) the contractor has breached a term of the agreement and, as a result of that breach, the safety of the contractor's patients is at serious risk if the agreement is not terminated; or
- (b) [F1NHS England] considers that contractor's financial situation is such that [F1NHS England] would be at risk of material financial loss.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

Termination by [F1NHS England] for unlawful sub-contracting

60.—(1) This paragraph applies if the contractor breaches the condition specified in paragraph 43(5) relating to the sub-contracting of clinical services under the agreement and it comes to the attention of [F1NHS England] that the contractor has done so.

- (2) Where this paragraph applies, [F1NHS England] must give notice in writing to the contractor—
- (a) terminating the agreement with immediate effect; or
 - (b) instructing the contractor to terminate with immediate effect the sub-contracting arrangements that give rise to the breach, and, if the contractor fails to comply with the instruction, [F1NHS England] must give notice in writing to the contractor terminating the agreement with immediate effect.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Termination by [F1NHS England]: remedial notices and breach notices

61.—(1) Where the contractor's breach of the agreement is not one to which paragraphs 57 to 60 apply and that breach is capable of remedy, [F1NHS England] must, before taking any action it is otherwise entitled to take by virtue of the agreement, give notice in writing to the contractor requiring it to remedy the breach (a “remedial notice”).

- (2) A remedial notice must specify—
- (a) details of the breach;
 - (b) the steps that the contractor must take to the satisfaction of [F1NHS England] in order to remedy the breach; and
 - (c) the period during which those steps must be taken (“the notice period”).
- (3) The notice period must not be less than a period of 28 days beginning with the date on which the notice is given unless [F1NHS England] is satisfied that a shorter period is necessary to protect—
- (a) the safety of the contractor's patients; or
 - (b) itself from material financial loss.

(4) Where [F1NHS England] is satisfied that the contractor has not taken the required steps to remedy the breach by the end of the notice period, [F1NHS England] may give a further notice in writing to the contractor terminating the agreement with effect from such date as [F1NHS England] specifies in the notice.

(5) Where the contractor's breach of the agreement is not one to which any of paragraphs 57 to 60 apply, and the breach is not capable of remedy, [F1NHS England] may give notice in writing to the contractor requiring the contractor not to repeat the breach (a “breach notice”).

- (6) If, following a breach notice or a remedial notice, the contractor—
- (a) repeats the breach that was the subject of the breach notice or the remedial notice; or
 - (b) otherwise breaches the agreement resulting in either a remedial notice or a further breach notice,

[F1NHS England] may give notice in writing to the contractor terminating the agreement with effect from such date as [F1NHS England] specifies in the notice.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

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(7) [F1NHS England] may not exercise its right to terminate the agreement under sub-paragraph (6) unless [F1NHS England] is satisfied that the cumulative effect of the breaches is such to allow the agreement to continue would prejudice the efficiency of the services to be provided under the agreement.

(8) If the contractor is in breach of any obligation under the agreement and a breach notice and a remedial notice in respect of that default giving rise to the breach has been given to the contractor, [F1NHS England] may withhold or deduct monies which would otherwise be payable under the agreement in respect of the obligation which is the subject matter of the default.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Termination by [F1NHS England]: additional provisions specific to agreements with qualifying bodies

62. If [F1NHS England] becomes aware that a contractor which is a qualifying body is carrying on any business which [F1NHS England] considers to be detrimental to the contractor's performance of its obligations under the agreement—

- (a) [F1NHS England] may give notice in writing to the contractor requiring it to cease carrying on that business before the end of a period of not less than 28 days beginning with the date on which the notice is given (“the notice period”); and
- (b) if the contractor has not satisfied [F1NHS England] that it has ceased carrying on that business by the end of the notice period, [F1NHS England] may give a further notice in writing to the contractor terminating the agreement with immediate effect or from such date as is specified in the notice.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Agreement sanctions

63.—(1) In this paragraph and in paragraph 64, “agreement sanction” means—

- (a) termination of specified reciprocal obligations under the agreement;
- (b) suspension of specified reciprocal obligations under the agreement for a period of up to six months; or
- (c) withholding or deducting monies otherwise payable under the agreement.

(2) Where [F1NHS England] is entitled to terminate the agreement in accordance with paragraph 57, 58, 59, 61(4) or (6) or 62, it may instead impose any of the agreement sanctions if [F1NHS England] is reasonably satisfied that the agreement sanction to be imposed is appropriate and proportionate to the circumstances giving rise to [F1NHS England's] entitlement to terminate the agreement.

(3) If [F1NHS England] decides to impose an agreement sanction, [F1NHS England] must—

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(a) give notice in writing to the contractor of the agreement sanction that it proposes to impose and the date upon which that sanction is to be imposed; and

(b) include in the notice an explanation of the effect of the imposition of the sanction.

(4) Subject to paragraph 64, [F1NHS England] may not impose the agreement sanction until the end of a period of at least 28 days beginning with the date on which [F1NHS England] gives notice to the contractor under to sub-paragraph (3) unless [F1NHS England] is satisfied that it is necessary to do so in order to protect—

(a) the safety of the contractor's patients; or

(b) itself from material financial loss.

(5) Where [F1NHS England] imposes an agreement sanction, [F1NHS England] may charge the contractor the reasonable costs of any additional administration that [F1NHS England] has incurred in order to impose, or as a result of imposing, the agreement sanction.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), [Sch. para. 1](#)

Agreement sanctions and the NHS dispute resolution procedure

64.—(1) If there is a dispute between [F1NHS England] and the contractor in relation to an agreement sanction that [F1NHS England] is proposing to impose, [F1NHS England] may not, subject to sub-paragraph (4), impose the agreement sanction except in the circumstances specified in sub-paragraphs (2) and (3).

(2) The circumstances specified in this sub-paragraph are if the contractor—

(a) refers the dispute relating to the agreement sanction to the NHS dispute resolution procedure before the end of the period of 28 days beginning with the date on which the contractor was given notice by [F1NHS England] in accordance with paragraph 60(4) (or such longer period as may be agreed in writing with [F1NHS England]); and

(b) gives notice in writing to [F1NHS England] that it has done so.

(3) Where the circumstances specified in sub-paragraph (2) apply, [F1NHS England] may not impose the agreement sanction unless—

(a) there has been a final determination of the dispute in accordance with regulation 77 (or by a court) and that determination permits [F1NHS England] to impose the agreement sanction; or

(b) the contractor ceases to pursue the NHS dispute resolution procedure,

whichever is the sooner.

(4) If the contractor does not invoke the NHS dispute resolution procedure before the end of the period specified in sub-paragraph (2)(a), [F1NHS England] may impose the agreement sanction with immediate effect.

(5) If [F1NHS England] is satisfied that it is necessary to impose the agreement sanction before the NHS dispute resolution procedure is concluded in order to protect—

(a) the safety of the contractor's patients; or

(b) itself from material financial loss,

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

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[^{F1}NHS England] may impose the agreement sanction with immediate effect, pending the outcome of that procedure (or any court proceedings).

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Termination and the NHS dispute resolution procedure

65.—(1) Where [^{F1}NHS England] is entitled to give notice in writing to the contractor terminating the agreement in accordance with paragraph 57, 58, 59, 61(4) or (6) or 62, [^{F1}NHS England] must, in the notice given to the contractor under those provisions, specify a date on which the agreement is to terminate that is at least 28 days after the date on which [^{F1}NHS England] gives notice to the contractor unless sub-paragraph (2) applies.

(2) This sub-paragraph applies if [^{F1}NHS England] is satisfied that a period of less than 28 days is necessary in order to protect—

- (a) the safety of the contractor's patients; or
- (b) itself from material financial loss.

(3) Where—

- (a) sub-paragraph (1) applies but the exceptions in sub-paragraph (2) do not apply; and
- (b) the contractor invokes the NHS dispute resolution procedure before the end of the notice period referred to in sub-paragraph (1) and gives notice in writing to [^{F1}NHS England] that it has done so,

the agreement does not terminate at the end of the notice period but instead only terminates in the circumstances described in sub-paragraph (4).

(4) The circumstances described in this sub-paragraph for the termination of the agreement are if and when—

- (a) there has been a final determination of the dispute under the NHS dispute resolution procedure (or by a court) and that determination permits [^{F1}NHS England] to terminate the agreement; or
- (b) the contractor ceases to pursue the NHS dispute resolution procedure,

whichever is the sooner.

(5) If [^{F1}NHS England] is satisfied that it is necessary to terminate the agreement before the NHS dispute resolution procedure (or any court proceedings) is concluded in order to protect—

- (a) the safety of the contractor's patients; or
- (b) itself from material financial loss,

sub-paragraphs (3) and (4) do not apply and [^{F1}NHS England] may confirm, by giving notice in writing to the contractor, that the agreement will nevertheless terminate at the end of the period of the notice given under paragraph 57, 58, 59, 61(4) or (6) or 62.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

[^{F65}SCHEDULE 2A

Regulation 24A

Suspension and reactivation of personal medical services agreements

Textual Amendments

F65 Sch. 2A inserted (E.) (1.4.2019) by [The Amendments Relating to the Provision of Integrated Care Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/248\)](#), regs. 1(1), **33**

Interpretation

1. In this Schedule—

“integrated care provider” means a person, other than a person specified in paragraph 3(3), who is party to an integrated care provider contract;

“integrated care provider contract” has the meaning given in paragraph 3.

Right to suspend a personal medical services agreement

2.—(1) Where a contractor wishes to perform or provide primary medical services under an integrated care provider contract, the contractor must give notice in writing to [^{F1}NHS England] of that intention in accordance with paragraph 4 and [^{F1}NHS England] must agree to suspend the operation of the contractor’s agreement in accordance with the requirements of, and subject to the conditions set out in, this Schedule.

(2) [^{F1}NHS England] must not suspend the contractor’s agreement until—

- (a) the contractor has informed [^{F1}NHS England] of the date on which the contractor intends to begin performing or, as the case may be, providing primary medical services under an integrated care provider contract; and
- (b) [^{F1}NHS England] has given notice in writing to each person on the contractor’s list of registered patients that—
 - (i) the contractor intends to perform or, as the case may be, provide primary medical services under an integrated care provider contract with effect from that date, and
 - (ii) the person will be transferred on to the list of registered service users of the integrated care provider on that date unless the person decides to register with another provider of primary medical services before that date.

(3) Where [^{F1}NHS England] suspends the operation of a contractor’s agreement under sub-paragraph (1), the contractor is released from any obligation to provide primary medical services under that agreement to the contractor’s list of registered patients from the date on which that suspension takes effect.

Textual Amendments

F1 Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Integrated care provider contracts

3.—(1) For the purposes of this Schedule, an “integrated care provider contract” is a contract entered into on or after 1st April 2019 which satisfies the following sub-paragraphs.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

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- (2) An integrated care provider contract must be between—
 - (a) one or more of the persons specified in sub-paragraph (3); and
 - (b) a person who is a provider of services specified in sub-paragraph (5).
- (3) The persons specified in this sub-paragraph are—
 - (a) [F1NHS England];
 - (b) one or more [F51integrated care boards]; or
 - (c) one or more local authorities in England.
- (4) An integrated care provider contract must—
 - (a) relate to the provision of two or more of the services specified in sub-paragraph (5); and
 - (b) not be a contract to which sub-paragraph (6) applies.
- (5) The services specified in this sub-paragraph are—
 - (a) primary medical services;
 - (b) secondary care services;
 - (c) public health services; and
 - (d) adult social care services,

and include such services where they are provided under arrangements entered into by an NHS body or a local authority in England by virtue of section 75 of the Act.

(6) This sub-paragraph applies to a contract for the provision of primary medical services to which directions given by the Secretary of State under section 98A of the Act (exercise of functions) relating to the provision of alternative provider medical services under section 83(2) of the Act apply.

(7) In this paragraph—

“adult social care services” means services provided pursuant to the exercise of the adult social services functions of a local authority in England;

“adult social services functions” means social services functions within the meaning of section 1A of the Local Authority and Social Services Act 1970 so far as relating to persons aged 18 or over, excluding any function to which Chapter 4 of Part 8 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 applies;

“primary medical services” means services which [F1NHS England] considers it appropriate to secure the provision of under section 83(2) of the 2006 Act (primary medical services);

“public health functions” means—

- (a) the public health functions of the Secretary of State under the following provisions of the Act—
 - (i) section 2A (Secretary of State’s duty as to protection of public health);
 - (ii) section 2B (functions of local authorities and Secretary of State as to improvement of public health); or
 - (iii) paragraphs 8 and 12 of Schedule 1 (further provision about the Secretary of State and services under the Act);
- (b) the public health functions of a local authority in England under the following provisions of the Act, and any regulations made under these provisions—
 - (i) section 2B (functions of local authorities and Secretary of State as to improvement of public health);
 - (ii) section 111 (dental public health); or

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- (iii) paragraphs 1 to 7B or 13 of Schedule 1 (further provision about the Secretary of State and services under this Act);
- (c) the public health functions of the Secretary of State that a local authority in England is required to exercise by virtue of regulations made under section 6C(1) (regulations as to the exercise by local authorities of certain public health functions) of the Act; or
- (d) the public health functions of the Secretary of State where they are exercised by [^{F1}NHS England], [^{F51}an integrated care board] or a local authority in England where those bodies are acting pursuant to arrangements made under section 7A (exercise of the Secretary of State’s public health functions) [^{F66}or 7B (directions requiring NHS bodies to exercise public health functions)] of the Act;

“public health services” are services which are provided pursuant to the exercise of public health functions;

“secondary care services” means—

- (a) such services, accommodation or facilities as [^{F51}an integrated care board] considers it appropriate to make arrangements for the provision of under or by virtue of section 3 (duties of [^{F51}integrated care boards] as to commissioning of health services) or 3A (power of [^{F51}integrated care boards] to commission certain health services) of the Act; or
 - (b) such services or facilities as [^{F1}NHS England] is required by the Secretary of State to arrange by virtue of regulations made under section 3B (power to require [^{F1}NHS England] to commission certain health services) of the Act.
- (8) For the purposes of this paragraph, any of the following is a local authority in England—
- (a) a county council;
 - (b) a county borough council;
 - (c) a district council;
 - (d) a London borough council;
 - (e) the Common Council of the City of London;
 - (f) the Council of the Isles of Scilly.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), [Sch. para. 1](#)
- F51** Words in Regulations substituted (1.7.2022) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Consequential and Related Amendments and Transitional Provisions\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/634\)](#), reg. 1(2), [Sch. para. 1\(1\)\(3\)](#) (with [Sch. para. 1\(2\)](#))
- F66** Words in [Sch. 2A para. 3\(7\)](#) inserted (15.5.2023) by [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/449\)](#), reg. 1(2)(b), [Sch. 2 para. 11](#)

Notice of intention to suspend a personal medical services agreement

4. A notice under paragraph 2(1) must—
- (a) state that the contractor wishes to suspend the agreement and specify the date on which the contractor would like the proposed suspension to take effect which must be a date which—
 - (i) falls at least one month after the date on which the notice was given, and

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- (ii) immediately precedes the date on which the contractor intends to begin performing or, as the case may be, providing primary medical services under the relevant integrated care provider contract;
- (b) give the name of each person who is a party to the agreement who intends to perform or, as the case may be, provide primary medical services under an integrated care provider contract; and
- (c) confirm that the contractor has agreed, as appropriate, to the suspension of the agreement.

Suspension of a personal medical services agreement: general

5.—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), the suspension of an agreement is effective for a minimum period of two years beginning with the date on which that suspension takes effect which must be—

- (a) the date specified in the notice given under paragraph 2(1); or
- (b) such later date as [F1NHS England] may approve in the circumstances of a particular case.

(2) The suspension of an agreement is effective for a period of less than two years beginning with the date on which that suspension takes effect under sub-paragraph (1) only in a case where the relevant integrated care provider contract terminates or expires or is varied as described in paragraph 9(1) before the end of that period.

(3) Where [F1NHS England] suspends an agreement, the contractor may not receive payments from [F1NHS England] in respect of any period during which that agreement is suspended.

- (4) [F1NHS England] must, before the end of the period of—
 - (a) three months beginning with the date on which the suspension of the agreement takes effect; or
 - (b) such longer period as may be agreed between [F1NHS England] and the contractor in the circumstances of a particular case,

pay the contractor any outstanding payments owed to the contractor in respect of the provision of primary medical services by the contractor under the agreement in accordance with the payment terms of that agreement.

(5) A contractor may not exercise the right to a general medical services contract which exists under regulation 32 in relation to a suspended agreement during any period in respect of which that agreement is suspended.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Notice of intention to reactivate a personal medical services agreement

6.—(1) A notice under paragraph 7(1) must be given to [F1NHS England] by the contractor at least six months before the date on which the proposed reactivation of the agreement is to take effect.

- (2) A notice under paragraph 7(1) must—
 - (a) state that the contractor wishes to reactivate the agreement and specify the date on which the contractor would like the proposed reactivation to take effect which must be a date which—
 - (i) falls at least six months after the date on which the notice was given, and

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- (ii) immediately follows the date on which the contractor intends to cease performing or, as the case may be, providing primary medical services under the relevant integrated care provider contract;
- (b) give the name of each person who is a party to the agreement who intends to resume the provision of primary medical services under the agreement;
- (c) confirm that the contractor has agreed, as appropriate, to the reactivation of the agreement; and
- (d) if the contractor wishes to reactivate the agreement as a general medical services contract, state that this is the case and confirm that the parties to the agreement have agreed, as appropriate, to the reactivation of the agreement as a general medical services contract.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Right to reactivate a personal medical services agreement

7.—(1) [F1NHS England] must reactivate an agreement under this paragraph where the contractor has given notice in writing to [F1NHS England] in accordance with paragraph 6 of the intention to reactivate the agreement in accordance with, and subject to the conditions set out in, this Schedule.

- (2) [F1NHS England] must only reactivate an agreement under this paragraph with effect from—
- (a) the date which falls on the second anniversary of the date on which the suspension of that agreement took effect; or
 - (b) subsequently, on a date which falls every two years after the date specified in paragraph (a) during the duration of the integrated care provider contract.

(3) [F1NHS England] must not reactivate an agreement which is of time limited duration where that agreement is to cease to have effect on a date which falls earlier than any of the dates specified in sub-paragraph (2)(a) or (b).

(4) Subject to paragraph 8(7), [F1NHS England] may reactivate a suspended agreement as a general medical services contract where, in respect of that agreement, the right to a general medical services contract under regulation 32 exists.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Reactivation of a personal medical services agreement: general

8.—(1) The reactivation of an agreement is effective on the date which falls immediately after the date on which the contractor ceases performing or, as the case may be, providing primary medical services under an integrated care provider contract which must be—

- (a) the date specified in the notice given under paragraph 7(1); or
- (b) such later date as [F1NHS England] may approve in the circumstances of a particular case.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

(2) [F¹NHS England] must not reactivate an agreement unless the conditions specified in sub-paragraph (3) are met.

(3) The conditions specified in this sub-paragraph are that—

- (a) the contractor remains eligible to hold an agreement in accordance with the conditions set out in regulation 5 at the date on which the reactivation of the agreement is to take effect; and
- (b) [F¹NHS England] is satisfied that, during the period in which the contractor's agreement was suspended, the contractor has not acted or failed to act in a manner that gives rise to [F¹NHS England's] right to terminate the agreement under any of the provisions of Part 8 of Schedule 2.

(4) Where the reactivation of the contractor's agreement is intended to take effect on the second anniversary of the date on which the suspension of that agreement took effect, [F¹NHS England] must notify in writing each person who resides in the contractor's former practice area and who was on the list of registered service users of the integrated care provider that—

- (a) the contractor intends to resume the provision of primary medical services under the agreement in respect of people who reside in the contractor's former practice area from the date specified in the notice; and
- (b) if the person was on the contractor's list of registered patients immediately prior to the date on which the suspension of the contractor's agreement took effect, the person will transfer onto the contractor's list of registered patients from the date specified in the notice unless the person decides to remain registered with the integrated care provider or registers with another provider of primary medical services before that date.

(5) Where the reactivation of the contractor's agreement is intended to take effect after the second anniversary of the date on which the suspension of that agreement took effect, [F¹NHS England] must notify in writing each person who resides in the contractor's former practice area and who was on the list of registered service users of the integrated care provider that—

- (a) the contractor intends to resume the provision of primary medical services under the agreement in respect of people who reside in the contractor's former practice area from the date specified in the notice; and
- (b) the person will remain on the list of registered service users of the integrated care provider from the date specified in the notice unless the person decides to register with the contractor or with another provider of primary medical services before that date.

(6) Where a suspended agreement is reactivated by [F¹NHS England], the terms of that agreement which are to apply are those terms which are effective at the date on which the reactivation takes effect, subject to any variation of those terms which may be agreed between the contractor and [F¹NHS England], including in respect of the right to a general medical services contract under regulation 32.

(7) [F¹NHS England] must not reactivate a suspended agreement as a general medical services contract unless—

- (a) the parties to that agreement have agreed, as appropriate, to the reactivation of that agreement as a general medical services contract; and
- (b) [F¹NHS England] is satisfied that—
 - (i) during the period in which the contractor's agreement was suspended, the contractor has not acted or failed to act in a manner that gives rise to [F¹NHS England's] right to terminate the agreement under any of the provisions of Part 8 of Schedule 2; and

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

- (ii) the parties to that agreement are eligible to hold a general medical services contract in accordance with the conditions set out in regulations 5 and 6 of the General Medical Services Contracts Regulations at the date on which the reactivation of the agreement as a general medical services contract is to take effect.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

Termination, expiry or variation of an integrated care provider contract

9.—(1) Where, at any time, an integrated care provider contract terminates or expires or is varied so that it no longer requires the integrated care provider to provide primary medical services to people who reside in a contractor’s former practice area—

- (a) [^{F1}NHS England] must, subject to the conditions specified in paragraph 8(3), reactivate the contractor’s agreement with effect from the date which falls immediately after the date on which the integrated care provider contract terminated or, as the case may be, expired or was varied; and
- (b) the contractor must, with effect from that date, resume the provision of primary medical services under the agreement to people who reside in the contractor’s former practice area.

(2) Where an integrated care provider contract terminates or expires or is varied as described in sub-paragraph (1), [^{F1}NHS England] must notify in writing each person who resides in the contractor’s former practice area and who was on the list of registered service users of the integrated care provider immediately before the date on which the integrated care provider contract terminated or, as the case may be, expired or was varied that—

- (a) the contractor has resumed providing primary medical services under the agreement from a specified date in respect of people who reside in the contractor’s former practice area; and
- (b) the person will transfer onto the contractor’s list of registered patients from the date specified unless the person decides to register with another provider of primary medical services before that date.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in Regulations substituted (6.11.2023) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Further Consequential Amendments\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/1071\)](#), reg. 1(1), **Sch. para. 1**

SCHEDULE 3

Regulation 89

Consequential amendments

Amendment of the Primary Medical Services (Sale of Goodwill and Restrictions on Sub-contracting) Regulations 2004

1. In regulation 2 of the Primary Medical Services (Sale of Goodwill and Restrictions on Sub-contracting) Regulations 2004 ^{M46} (interpretation), for the definition of “PMS Agreements Regulations” substitute—

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

““PMS Agreements Regulations” means the National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015;”.

Marginal Citations

M46 [S.I. 2004/906](#). There are no relevant amending instruments.

Amendment of the Local Authority Social Services and National Health Service Complaints (England) Regulations 2009

2. In regulation 2 of the Local Authority Social Services and National Health Service Complaints (England) Regulations 2009 ^{M47} (interpretation), for paragraph (b)(ii) of the definition of “relevant complaints procedure” substitute—

“(ii) regulation 76 of the National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015;”.

Marginal Citations

M47 [S.I. 2009/309](#). Paragraphs (a)(i), (ia), (ii) and (iii) of the definition of “relevant complaints procedure” were substituted by regulation 120 of, and paragraph 7(a) of Schedule 10 to [S.I. 2013/349](#).

Amendment of the National Health Service (Functions of the First-tier Tribunal relating to Primary Medical, Dental and Ophthalmic Services) Regulations 2010

3. In regulation 2 of the National Health Service (Functions of the First-tier Tribunal relating to Primary Medical, Dental and Ophthalmic Services) Regulations 2010 ^{M48} (interpretation), for the definition of “PMS Agreements Regulations” substitute—

““PMS Agreements Regulations” means the National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015;”.

Marginal Citations

M48 [S.I. 2010/76](#). The definition of “PMS Agreements Regulations” was amended by article 11 of, and Part 1 of Schedule 2 to, [S.I. 2013/235](#).

Amendment of the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013

4. In regulation 2 of the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013 ^{M49} (interpretation), for the definition of “PMS Regulations” substitute—

““PMS Regulations” means the National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015;”.

Marginal Citations

M49 [S.I. 2013/349](#). There are no relevant amending instruments.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

Amendment of the National Health Service (Clinical Commissioning Groups – Disapplication of Responsibility) Regulations 2013

5. In regulation 2 of the National Health Service (Clinical Commissioning Groups – Disapplication of Responsibility Regulations 2013 ^{M50} (persons for whom [^{F51}an integrated care board] does not have responsibility in relation to its duty to commission services), in paragraph (4) (a), for “paragraph 15 of Schedule 5 to the National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2004” substitute “ paragraph 19 of Schedule 2 to the National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 ”.

Textual Amendments

F51 Words in [Regulations](#) substituted (1.7.2022) by [The Health and Care Act 2022 \(Consequential and Related Amendments and Transitional Provisions\) Regulations 2022 \(S.I. 2022/634\)](#), reg. 1(2), Sch. para. 1(1)(3) (with Sch. para. 1(2))

Marginal Citations

M50 [S.I. 2013/350](#). There are no relevant amending instruments.

Amendment to the National Health Service (Procurement, Patient Choice and Competition) (No 2) Regulations 2013

6. In regulation 11 of the National Health Service (Procurement, Patient Choice and Competition) (No 2) Regulations 2013 ^{M51} (patient choice: primary medical services), for paragraph (2)(b) substitute—

“(a) Part 2 of Schedule 2 to the National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 (other contractual terms - patients: general),”.

Marginal Citations

M51 [S.I. 2013/500](#). There are no relevant amending instruments.

Amendment of the National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Regulations 2015

7. In regulation 2 of the National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Regulations 2015 ^{M52} (interpretation), for “the National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2004” in the definition of “PMS contractor” substitute “the National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015”.

Marginal Citations

M52 [S.I. 2015/570](#). There are no relevant amending instruments.

Status: Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

SCHEDULE 4

Regulation 90

Revocations

1. The enactments specified in column 1 of the Table to this Schedule are revoked to the extent specified in column 2 of that Table.

Table

<i>Title of instrument</i>	<i>Extent of revocation</i>
The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2004 (S.I.2004/627)	The whole instrument
The National Health Service (Primary Medical Services) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2005 (S.I.2005/893)	Regulations 6 to 9 and 15
The National Health Service (Primary Medical Services) (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No.2) Regulations 2005 (S.I.2005/3315)	Regulations 8 to 13
The National Health Service (Performers Lists) (Amendment) Regulations 2005 (S.I.2005/3491)	Regulation 12(9)
The Primary Medical Services and Pharmaceutical Services Miscellaneous Amendments Regulations 2006 (S.I. 2006/501)	Regulations 4 and 5
The Local Involvement Networks (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2008 (S.I. 2008/1514)	Regulation 4
The Primary Ophthalmic Services Amendment, Transitional and Consequential Provisions Regulations 2008 (S.I.2008/1700)	Schedule 1, paragraph 13
The Local Authority Social Services and NHS (Complaints) (England) Regulations 2009 (S.I.2009/309)	Schedule, paragraph 4
The National Health Service (Miscellaneous Amendments Relating to Community Pharmaceutical Services and Optometrist Prescribing Regulations 2009 (S.I.2009/2205)	Regulation 36
The National Health Service (Prescribing and Charging Amendments Relating to Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2009 (S.I.2009/2230)	Regulation 4
F67	F68
...	...
The Transfer of Tribunal Functions Order 2010 (S.I.2010/22)	Schedule 3, paragraphs 59 to 61
The Pharmacy Order 2010 (S.I.2010/231)	Schedule 4, paragraph 42

Changes to legislation: The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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)

The General Specialist Medical Practice Schedule 3, paragraph 13
(Education, Training and Qualifications) Order
2010 (S.I.2010/234)

The Health and Social Care Act (Consequential Schedule, paragraph 38
Provisions – Social Workers) Order 2012
(S.I.2012/1479)

The Human Medicines Regulations 2012 Schedule 34, paragraph 87
(S.I.2012/1916)

The Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act Schedule 3, paragraph 33
2007(Consequential Amendments) Order 2012
(S.I.2012/2404)

The National Health Service (Primary Medical Parts 1 and 3
Services) (Miscellaneous Amendments and
Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2013
(S.I.2013/363)

The Health Care and Associated Professions Schedule 2, paragraph 2
(Indemnity Arrangements) Order 2014 (S.I.
2014/1887)

The NHS (Amendments to Primary Care Terms Part 3
of Service relating to the Electronic Prescription
Service) Regulations 2015 (S.I. 2015/915)

Textual Amendments

- F67** Words in Sch. 4 omitted (6.10.2017) by virtue of [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2017 \(S.I. 2017/908\)](#), regs. 1(2), **9(a)**
- F68** Words in Sch. 4 omitted (6.10.2017) by virtue of [The National Health Service \(General Medical Services Contracts and Personal Medical Services Agreements\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2017 \(S.I. 2017/908\)](#), regs. 1(2), **9(b)**

Status:

Point in time view as at 27/05/2024.

Changes to legislation:

The National Health Service (Personal Medical Services Agreements) Regulations 2015 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 17 August 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.