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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2015 No. 238**

The National Health Service (Charges  
to Overseas Visitors) Regulations 2015

**PART 4**

Overseas visitors exempt from charges

**Exceptional humanitarian reasons**

17.—(1) Where an overseas visitor who has been granted leave to enter the United Kingdom outside the immigration rules—

- (a) applies (or someone applies on the overseas visitor's behalf) for exemption from charges in respect of relevant services for a course of treatment; and
- (b) the Secretary of State determines that exceptional humanitarian reasons justify it,

no charge may be made or recovered in respect of relevant services provided to that overseas visitor for that course of treatment.

(2) A determination under paragraph (1)(b) may only be made by the Secretary of State if the Secretary of State is satisfied, in the case of that overseas visitor, that—

- (a) the treatment specified is not available in that person's home country;
- (b) the necessary arrangements have been made for temporary accommodation for that person, any authorised companion and authorised child for the duration of the course of treatment; and
- (c) the necessary arrangements have been made for the return of that person, any authorised companion and any authorised child to their home country when the course of treatment is completed.

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Regulations 2015, Section 17.