1994 No. 499

GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES

Medical Practitioners (Vocational Training) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1994

Made . . . . . 22nd December 1994

Coming into operation . . 1st January 1995

The Department of Health and Social Services, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 8 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1978(**a**) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, after consultation with such organisations as appeared to the Department to be representative of the medical profession in accordance with Article 8(5) of that Order, hereby makes the following regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Medical Practitioners (Vocational Training) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1994 and shall come into operation on 1st January 1995.

(2) In these regulations "the principal regulations" means the Medical Practitioners (Vocational Training) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979(**b**).

Interpretation of the principal regulations

2.—(1) Regulation 2(1) of the principal regulations (interpretation) shall be amended as follows.

(2) In the definition of "Health and Social Services Board" for the words "includes the" shall be substituted the words "includes an HSS trust constituted under Article 10 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1991(**c**) and any".

(3) After the definition of "the Joint Committee" insert—

" "Medical Directive" means Council Directive 93/16/EEC of 5 April 1993 to facilitate the free movement of doctors and the mutual recognition of their diplomas, certificates and other evidence of formal qualifications(**d**);".

Prescribed medical experience

3.—(1) Regulation 4 of the principal regulations (prescribed medical experience) shall be amended as follows.

(**a**) S.I. 1978/1907 (N.I. 26)
(**b**) S.R. 1979 No. 460 amended by S.R. 1986 Nos. 69 and 309
(**c**) S.I. 1991/194 (N.I. 1)
(**d**) O.J. No. L165, 7.7.1993, p. 1

(2) After paragraph (2) insert—

"(2A) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(*b*), employment which is not whole-time cannot count as "equivalent" to whole-time employment unless it includes at least two periods of whole-time employment, each lasting not less than one week, one such period falling within paragraph (i) and one within paragraph (ii).".

(3) In paragraph (3), for "occupied less than half" substitute ", taken week by week, occupied less than 60%".

(4) After paragraph (3) insert—

"(3A) The Joint Committee shall supervise the training referred to in paragraph (1)(*b*), and shall in particular secure that it complies with the requirements of article 31(1) of the Medical Directive, or (in the case of part-time training) article 31(1) as appropriately modified together with article 34.".

(5) Paragraphs (2) and (3) of this regulation, and paragraph (4) so far as the amendment it makes refers to article 34 of the Medical Directive, have effect only in relation to a period of training begun after 31st December 1994.

Certificate of prescribed experience

4. After regulation 5(2) (certificate of prescribed experience) insert—

"(2A) A certificate of prescribed experience shall show the qualifications by virtue of which the practitioner to whom it is issued is entitled to be registered under the Medical Act 1983(**a**), and where those qualifications were awarded.".

Certificate of equivalent experience

5. After regulation 6(2) (certificate of equivalent experience) insert—

"(2A) A certificate of equivalent experience shall show the qualifications by virtue of which the practitioner to whom it is issued is entitled to be registered under the Medical Act 1983, and where those qualifications were awarded.

(2B) If they are satisfied that the medical experience in respect of which a certificate of equivalent experience is to be issued complies with all the requirements of the Medical Directive relating to specific training in general medical practice, the Joint Committee shall annotate the certificate to that effect.".

Exemptions from vocational training

6.—(1) Regulation 7 of the principal regulations (exemptions) shall be amended as follows.

(2) In paragraph (1)(*d*) for the words from "only for the provision of maternity medical services" to the end of the sub-paragraph there shall be substituted the words "for the provision of general medical services limited to—

(**a**) 1983 c. 54