



National Health Service in Scotland
Management Executive

St. Andrew's House
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Dear Colleague

**ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT ON THE USE OF
PHLEBOTOMISTS IN SCOTTISH HOSPITALS**

Summary

1. Enclosed is a copy of a Report on Phebolomists in Scottish Hospitals. The Report is by the National Advisory Committee for Scientific Services and the Advisory Council has recommended that it should be published and issued to the NHS as an example of good practice. The Management Executive has accepted this recommendation.

2. The Report considers the current use of phlebotomists and makes recommendations about their extended use, their training, limitation of their duties and clinical responsibility. It also provides some information on the costs of providing a phlebotomy service. The report concludes that in most settings a phlebotomy service can be provided with a saving to the overall hospital budget and that there are savings in terms of increased efficiency in the organisation of the work of the laboratory.

Action

3. Health Boards are requested to consider the Report's recommendations and to draw these to the attention of Unit General Managers to take forward.

Yours sincerely

G W TUCKER
Directorate of Strategic Management
Central Services

30 June 1992

Addressees

For action:

General Managers,
Health Boards

To be copied to Unit
General Managers for
action

For information:

General Manager,
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