



National Health Service in Scotland
Management Executive

St. Andrew's House
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Dear Colleague

THE MENTAL HEALTH (CLASS OF NURSE)
(SCOTLAND) ORDER 1994

Summary

1. This letter informs you of the existence and effect of the above Order. The Order, which came into force on 5 July 1994, replaces the Mental Health (Prescription of class of Nurse) (Scotland) Order 1984 which prescribed the class of nurse permitted to exercise the nurses' holding power under section 25(2) of the Mental Health (Scotland) Act 1984. A supply of the Order is attached for your use.

Background

2. This new Order is required as a result of the introduction of Project 2000 courses. Project 2000 courses commenced at Colleges of Nursing and Midwifery in Scotland in August 1992. The courses are of 3 years' duration so the first qualified students to be registered with the UK Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting (UKCC) will begin to seek employment in mid 1995. However, similar courses started in England at an earlier date and people now qualifying in England are coming to Scotland to seek employment. This Order will allow any nurses qualifying under the Project 2000 courses in Scotland or England to use the nurses' holding power under Section 25(2) of the Mental Health (Scotland) Act 1984.

The Order does not affect existing Scottish nurses, who are covered, and will continue to be covered, by parts 3 and 5 of the UKCC register.

Action

Chief Executives are requested to bring the new Order to the attention of staff responsible for recruiting and managing nursing staff.

Yours sincerely

ANNE JARVIE
Director of Nursing

23 August 1994

Addressees

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