



4 October 1995

Dear Colleague

**GUIDANCE ON PURCHASING FOR CERVICAL
SCREENING
REPORT OF WORKING PARTY ON INTERNAL
QUALITY CONTROL FOR CERVICAL
CYTOPATHOLOGY LABORATORIES**

Summary

1. This MEL commends to the Service 2 reports stemming from the Inverclyde Inquiry Report:

*Spent in person
10/10/95
in Registry*

- Guidance to Health Boards on Purchasing for Cervical Screening;

- the Report of the Working Party on Internal Quality Control for Cervical Cytopathology Laboratories.

Adherence to their recommendations will result in significant improvements in the quality and reliability of the cervical screening service.

Action

2. Board General Managers, in conjunction with Trust Chief Executives and GPs, are asked to ensure that their Board's purchasing strategy reflects national guidance and current professional good practice. The attached Guidance on Purchasing should be distributed widely including to GPs.

October, 95

Addressees

For action:

General Managers, Health Boards
GP Fundholders

Chief Executives, NHS Trusts

General Manager, Common Services
Agency

For information:

General Manager, Health Education
Board for Scotland

General Manager, State Hospitals
Board for Scotland

Executive Director, SCPMDE

Local Associations of GPFHs

**Enquiries to and further copies of
the reports from:**

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3. Trust Chief Executives responsible for laboratories providing a cervical cytopathology and/or a histopathology service should ensure that action is taken to implement the recommendations in the Report of the Working Party on Internal Quality Control for Cervical Cytopathology Laboratories. Health Boards will wish to assure themselves that providers implement the Report's recommendations.

Yours sincerely



KEVIN J WOODS
Director of Purchasing



ROBERT E KENDELL
Chief Medical Officer