



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

NHS
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Health Department
Directorate of Performance Management and Finance

Dear Colleague

CLINICAL NEGLIGENCE AND OTHER RISKS INDEMNITY SCHEME (CNORIS): INTEGRATION OF STANDARDS WITH NHS QIS GENERIC CLINICAL GOVERNANCE STANDARDS

Purpose

1. This HDL is to advise that following the formation of the special Health Board NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (NHS QIS) it has been decided to integrate the Healthcare Risk Management Standards established by the Clinical Negligence and Other Risks Indemnity Scheme (CNORIS) and the NHS QIS Generic Clinical Governance Standards.

Background

2. Following meetings with Willis Ltd, Scheme Managers for CNORIS and NHS QIS, the Scottish Executive has decided that the responsibility for overseeing the standard setting and accreditation process will in future be managed by NHS QIS. Consequently, NHS QIS and Willis Ltd, are liaising to establish a combined set of standards which will, on 1st April 2004, come under the auspices of NHS QIS.

3. This work is designed to deliver an improved amalgamated process that will benefit all NHSScotland organisations and will, on 1st April 2004, supersede the current parallel approach to accreditation.

Way Forward

4. We are keen to ensure that the benefits gained from the CNORIS and NHS QIS/CSBS processes over the last few years should not be lost. Rather, within revised structures, we want to build on the existing achievements and to create a platform for further progress. In the meantime, the contents of the present set of CNORIS level one, two and three standards remain as indicators of best practice, and each NHSScotland organisation should take account of such good practice in its planning.

8th July 2003

Addresses

For action

Chief Executives, NHS Trusts
Chief Executives, NHS Boards
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5. While the current accreditation processes will not continue in their present format, arrangements will be made to ensure that organisations with CNORIS level one 2004 expiry dates are not disadvantaged by this transition. Responsibility for the present claims handling/financial arrangements for CNORIS will remain with Willis Ltd.

6. A short-life working group has been commissioned to consider, in more detail, the amalgamation of both sets of standards and how the accreditation process will operate in the future. We expect to have firmer proposals in September 2003 with a new system being piloted from 1st April 2004. I will of course write again once further decisions have been taken and the way forward is clearer.

Yours sincerely

JOHN ALDRIDGE

Director of Performance Management and Finance