STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1969 No. 101

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

The Weights and Measures (Equivalents for dealings with drugs) Regulations 1969

Made - - -	*29th January* 1969
Laid before Parliament	*5th February* 1969
Coming into Operation	*3rd March* 1969

The Secretary of State for Social Services and the Secretary of State for Scotland acting jointly, in exercise of their powers under section 10(7) of the Weights and Measures Act 1963(a), as amended (b), and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby make the following regulations :—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Weights and Measures (Equivalents for dealings with drugs) Regulations 1969 and shall come into operation on 3rd March 1969.

(2) In these regulations the word "mixture" means any liquid preparation intended for administration by mouth which consists of one or more drugs dissolved or suspended in an aqueous or other appropriate vehicle, but does not include an elixir, emulsion, linctus or syrup.

(3) The Interpretation Act 1889(c) applies to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Equivalents for weights and volumes

2.—(1) Except as provided in regulations 3 and 4 below, any unit of measurement mentioned in column 2 of Table 1, column 2 of Table 2, column 2 of Table 3 or column 2 of Table 4 set out in the schedule hereto shall be treated for the purpose of any dealing with drugs as the equivalent of the unit set opposite thereto in column 1 of the Table ; and for any fraction of one grain not specifically mentioned in column 1 of the said Table 1, the equivalent for such purpose shall be treated as the corresponding fraction of the equivalent of one grain set out in column 2 of that Table.

(2) Except as provided in regulations 3 and 4 below, where any quantity of drugs, expressed in terms of one or more of the units mentioned in column 1 of Table 3 or column 1 of Table 4 hereinbefore referred to, is greater than one

(a) 1963 c.31.
(b) S.I. 1968/1699 (1968 III p.4585).
(c) 1889 c.63.

pound or one pint, the equivalent for the purpose of any dealing with the drugs shall be treated as the corresponding multiple of the equivalent for one pound or one pint, as the case may be, specified in column 2 of the relevant Table together with the equivalent so specified of any residue of less than a pound or pint. In this paragraph "corresponding multiple", in relation to a quantity of pounds or pints, means the number of times that quantity will divide into units of one pound or one pint, as the case may be.

Equivalents for doses of liquids

3.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this regulation, where a prescription for any drug states that the quantity of each dose is to be either one fluid drachm or two fluid drachms, the equivalent of that quantity for the purpose of dispensing the prescription shall be treated as five millilitres or ten millilitres respectively.

(2) Where a prescription for any drug which is a mixture states that the quantity of each dose is to be one half of a fluid ounce, the equivalent of that quantity for the purpose of dispensing the prescription shall be treated as ten millilitres.

(3) Where a prescription for any drug which is a mixture, other than a mixture formulated for administration to children, states that the quantity of each dose is to be two fluid drachms, the equivalent of that quantity for the purpose of dispensing the prescription shall be treated as ten millilitres :

Provided that, if the prescription refers to any edition of the British Pharmacopoeia, the British Pharmaceutical Codex, or the British National Formulary prior to the 1968 editions, being an edition which contains a formulation of the drug with a dose of one half of a fluid ounce, and the drug is not prescribed at twice the normal strength, the equivalent of a dose of two fluid drachms shall be treated for the purpose of dispensing the prescription as ten millilitres of the drug at half the normal strength.

Equivalents for total quantities prescribed

4.—(1) Where a prescription to which regulation 3(1) of these regulations refers is for a total quantity expressed as a number of fluid ounces mentioned in column 1 of Table 5 set out in the schedule hereto, the equivalent of that total quantity for the purpose of dispensing the prescription shall be treated as the quantity set opposite thereto in column 2 of the Table.

(2) Where a prescription to which regulation 3(2) of these regulations refers is for a total quantity expressed as a number of fluid ounces mentioned in column 1 of Table 6 set out in the schedule hereto, the equivalent of that total quantity for the purpose of dispensing the prescription shall be treated as the quantity set opposite thereto in column 2 of the Table.

(3) Where a prescription to which regulation 3(3) of these regulations refers is for a total quantity expressed as a number of fluid ounces mentioned in column 1 of Table 7 set out in the schedule hereto, the equivalent of that total quantity for the purpose of dispensing the prescription shall be treated as the quantity set opposite thereto in column 2 of the Table.

(4) Where a prescription to which paragraph (1) or (3) of regulation 3 of these regulations refers is for a total quantity greater than 12 fluid ounces,

the equivalent of the total quantity for the purpose of dispensing the prescription shall be treated as the corresponding multiple of the equivalent of 12 fluid ounces specified in column 2 of the said Table 5 or column 2 of the said Table 7, as the case may be, together with the equivalent specified in the relevant Table of any residue of less than 12 fluid ounces.

(5) Where a prescription to which regulation 3(2) of these regulations refers is for a total quantity greater than 24 fluid ounces, the equivalent of the total quantity for the purpose of dispensing the prescription shall be treated as the corresponding multiple of the equivalent of 24 fluid ounces specified in column 2 of the said Table 6 together with the equivalent specified in that Table of any residue of less than 24 fluid ounces.

(6) In this regulation "corresponding multiple", in relation to a quantity of fluid ounces, means the number of times that quantity will divide by 12 or 24 as the case may be.

(7) Where any prescription to which regulation 3 of these regulations refers specifies quantities of ingredients of any drug in the total quantity to be dispensed, these regulations shall be treated as applying to the quantity of each such ingredient in each dose.

Control of sale and supply

5.—(1) Where any manufacturer, wholesale dealer or retail dealer sells or supplies any drug on or after the relevant date, he shall, if the order or prescription relating to such dealing is expressed in terms of a unit of measurement specified in column 1 of Table 1, column 1 of Table 2, column 1 of Table 3 or column 1 of Table 4 set out in the schedule hereto or of any such fraction as is mentioned in paragraph (1) of regulation 2 of these regulations, carry out such dealing in terms of the equivalent quantity ascertained in accordance with that regulation:

Provided that where a drug is sold or supplied on a prescription to which regulation 3 of these regulations refers and the prescription for the drug is expressed in terms of a unit of measurement specified in column 1 of Table 5, column 1 of Table 6 or column 1 of Table 7 set out in the schedule hereto, the dealing shall be carried out in terms of the equivalent quantity ascertained in accordance with regulations 3 and 4 of these regulations.

(2) For the purposes of this regulation and regulation 6 of these regulations the "relevant date" means (*a*) in the case of a manufacturer, 1st January 1970, (*b*) in the case of a wholesale dealer, 1st April 1970 and (*c*) in the case of a retail dealer, for the dispensing of prescriptions, the date of coming into operation of these regulations, and for any other dealing with drugs, 1st January 1971.

Revocation

6. The Weights and Measures (Equivalents for dealings with drugs) Regulations 1964(**a**) shall cease to apply to manufacturers, wholesale dealers and retail dealers on the relevant date and those regulations and the Weights and Measures (Equivalents for dealings with drugs) Amendment Regulations 1964(**b**) shall be revoked on 1st January 1971.

(**a**) S.I. 1964/81 (1964 I, p.150). (**b**) S.I. 1964/1144 (1964 II, p.2567).

SCHEDULE

TABLE 1

WEIGHTS

Column 1 *grains*	Column 2 *milligrammes*
$\frac{1}{600}$	0·1
$\frac{1}{500}$ $\frac{1}{480}$	0·125
$\frac{1}{400}$	0·15
$\frac{1}{320}$ $\frac{1}{300}$	0·2
$\frac{1}{240}$	0·25
$\frac{1}{200}$	0·3
$\frac{1}{160}$ $\frac{1}{150}$	0·4
$\frac{1}{130}$ $\frac{1}{120}$	0·5
$\frac{1}{100}$	0·6
$\frac{1}{80}$ $\frac{1}{75}$	0·8
$\frac{1}{60}$	1
$\frac{1}{50}$	1·25
$\frac{1}{40}$	1·5
$\frac{1}{30}$	2
$\frac{1}{25}$ $\frac{1}{24}$	2·5
$\frac{1}{20}$	3
$\frac{1}{15}$	4
$\frac{1}{12}$	5
$\frac{1}{10}$	6

TABLE 1—*continued.*

Column 1 *grains*	Column 2 *milligrammes*
$\frac{1}{8}$	7·5
$\frac{1}{6}$	10
$\frac{1}{5}$	12·5
$\frac{1}{4}$	15
$\frac{1}{3}$	20
$\frac{2}{5}$	25
$\frac{1}{2}$	30
$\frac{3}{5}$	40
$\frac{3}{4}$	50
1	60
$1\frac{1}{4}$	75
$1\frac{1}{2}$	100
2	125
$2\frac{1}{2}$	150
3	200
$3\frac{1}{2}$, 4	250
$4\frac{1}{2}$, 5	300
$5\frac{1}{2}$, 6	400
$6\frac{1}{2}$, 7, $7\frac{1}{2}$	450
8	500
9, 10	600
11 to 13	800

TABLE 1—*continued.*

Column 1 *grains*	Column 2 *grammes*
14 to 16	1
17 to 20	1·2
21 to 25	1·5
26 to 29	1·8
30 to 33	2
34 to 37	2·3
38 to 43	2·5
44 to 51	3
52 to 57	3·5
58 to 65	4
66 to 76	4·5
77 to 84	5
85 to 102	6
103 to 115	7
116 to 135	8
136 to 150	9
151 to 165	10
166 to 180	11
181 to 190	12
191 to 220	13
221 to 250	15
251 to 275	17
276 to 325	20
326 to 350	22
351 to 375	23
376 to 400	25
401 to 425	26
426 to 450	28
451 to 510	30

Entries in the above Table expressed as one figure to another are inclusive of both figures.

TABLE 2

VOLUMES

Column 1 *minims*	Column 2 *millilitres*
1	0·06
1½	0·09
2	0·12
2½	0·15
3	0·18
3½	0·2
4 4½	0·25
5 5½	0·3
6 7 7½	0·4
8 9	0·5
10 11	0·6
12 13	0·7
14 15 16	0·9
17 18	1
19 to 22	1·2
23 to 27	1·5
28 to 32	1·8
33 to 37	2
38 to 46	2·5
47 to 55	3
56 to 64	3·5
65 to 74	4
75 to 84	4·5
85 to 93	5

TABLE 2—*continued.*

Column 1 *minims*	Column 2 *millilitres*
94 to 110	6
111 to 130	7
131 to 149	8
150 to 167	9
168 to 185	10
186 to 200	11
201 to 220	12
221 to 250	14
251 to 275	15
276 to 300	17
301 to 330	18
331 to 370	20
371 to 400	22
401 to 450	25
451 to 500	28

Entries in the above Table expressed as one figure to another are inclusive of both figures.

TABLE 3

WEIGHTS

Column 1 *ounces avoirdupois or apothecaries*	Column 2 *grammes*
1 oz. or more but less than 1½ oz.	25
1½ „ „ „ „ „ „ 3 „	50
3 „ „ „ „ „ „ 5½ „	100
5½ „ „ „ „ „ „ 9 „	200
9 „ „ „ „ „ „ 14½ „	300
14½ oz. or more but not more than 16 oz. or 1lb. avoirdupois ...	500

TABLE 4

VOLUMES

Column 1 *fluid ounces*	Column 2 *millilitres*
1 fl. oz. or more but less than 1½ fl. oz.	25
1½ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ 3 „ „	50
3 „ „ „ „ „ „ „ 5½ „ „	100
5½ „ „ „ „ „ „ „ 9 „ „	200
9 „ „ „ „ „ „ „ 14½ „ „	300
14½ fl. oz. or more but not more than 20 fl. oz. or 1 pint or ¼ gallon ...	500

TABLE 5

Prescriptions in terms of a 1 fluid drachm dose.

Column 1 *fluid ounces*	Column 2 *millilitres*
½	25
1, 1½	50
2, 3	100
4	150
5, 6	200
8, 10	300
12	500

TABLE 6

Prescriptions in terms of a ½ fluid ounce dose.

Column 1 *fluid ounces*	Column 2 *millilitres*
½	10
1	20
2 3	50
4 6	100
8 10 12	200
16 20	300
24	500

TABLE 7

Prescriptions in terms of a 2 fluid drachm dose to which regulation 4(3) applies.

Column 1 *fluid ounces*	Column 2 *millilitres*
¼	10
½	20
1 1½	50
2 3	100
4 5 6	200
8 10	300
12	500

R. H. S. Crossman,
Secretary of State for Social Services.

29th January 1969.

William Ross,
Secretary of State for Scotland.

29th January 1969.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations prescribe, for the purposes of any dealings with drugs, equivalents between the grain and the milligramme, the minim and the millilitre, the ounce and the gramme, the fluid ounce and the millilitre.

The regulations also require that from the dates mentioned in regulation 5 orders or prescriptions for the supply of drugs expressed in terms of grains, minims, ounces or fluid ounces are to be carried out in terms of the metric equivalent prescribed by the regulations.

The regulations supersede the Weights and Measures (Equivalents for dealings with drugs) Regulations 1964.