STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1972 No. 1822

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, ENGLAND AND WALES

The National Health Service (Qualifications of Health Visitors) Regulations 1972

Made - - -	*28th November* 1972
Laid before Parliament	*5th December* 1972
Coming into Operation	*1st January* 1973

The Secretary of State for Social Services (as respects England, except Monmouthshire) and the Secretary of State for Wales (as respects Wales and Monmouthshire) in exercise of their powers under section 66 of the National Health Service Act 1946(**a**) 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 National Health Service (Qualifications of Health Visitors) Regulations 1972 and shall come into operation on 1st January 1973.

(2) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

"health visitor" means a person employed by a local health authority to visit people in their homes or elsewhere for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of young children, persons suffering from illness and expectant or nursing mothers, and as to the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection, and includes a person so employed by a voluntary organisation under arrangements with a local health authority;

"regulations of 1930" means the Local Government (Qualifications of Medical Officers and Health Visitors) Regulations 1930, as amended by the Local Government (Qualifications of Medical Officers and Health Visitors) (Amendment) Regulations 1933(**b**);

"regulations of 1948" means the National Health Service (Qualifications of Health Visitors and Tuberculosis Visitors) Regulations 1948(**c**);

(**a**) 1946 c. 81

(**b**) S.R. & O. 1930/69, 1933/408 (Rev. XII p. 511: 1930, p. 846; 1933, p. 1030).

(**c**) S.I. 1948/1415 (Rev. XV, p. 767: 1948 I, p. 2170).

"regulations of 1964" means the National Health Service (Qualifications of Health Visitors) Regulations 1964(**a**);

"the Council" means the Council for the Education and Training of Health Visitors constituted by section 1 of the Health Visiting and Social Work (Training) Act 1962(**b**), as amended by section 11 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970(**c**).

(3) The Interpretation Act 1889(**d**) shall apply to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Qualifications for employment as a health visitor

2. No person shall be employed as a health visitor unless such person—

(*a*) holds the health visitors certificate issued by the Council; or

(*b*) holds the health visitors certificate issued by the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health under conditions approved by the Secretary of State; or

(*c*) holds the health visitors certificate issued by the Royal Sanitary Association of Scotland under conditions approved by the Secretary of State for Scotlaind and duly endorsed by the Association as rendering the holder eligible for appointment as a health visitor in England and Wales as well as in Scotland; or

(*d*) was qualified prior to 5th July 1948 to hold the appointment of health visitor under the regulations of 1930 otherwise than by virtue of a dispensation under regulation 10 of those regulations; or

(*e*) was qualified prior to the date of the coming into operation of the regulations of 1964 to hold the appointment of health visitor by virtue of a dispensation given under regulation 5 of the regulations of 1948; or

(*f*) holds a qualification obtained outside the United Kingdom which the Secretary of State, after consultation with the Council, has approved for the purposes of this regulation:

Provided that—

(i) a person who is qualified under paragraph (*e*) of this regulation shall be regarded as so qualified only in respect of employment by the local health authority or voluntary organisation by whom such person was employed at the coming into operation of the regulations of 1964 or by any other local health authority whose employment such person enters in consequence of the transfer to that authority by or under any enactment of any functions of the first mentioned authority; and

(ii) a person who is qualified under paragraph (*f*) of this regulation shall be regarded as so qualified only for such period and in respect of such employment as is specified by the Secretary of State in his approval of the qualification.

(**a**) S.I. 1964/1099 (1964 II, p. 2434). (**b**) 1962 c. 33.

(**c**) 1970 c. 42. (**d**) 1889 c. 63.

Revocation

3. The regulations of 1964 are hereby revoked.

Keith Joseph,
Secretary of State for Social Services.

22nd November 1972.

Peter Thomas,
Secretary of State for Wales.

28th November 1972.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Regulations.*)

These Regulations replace the National Health Service (Qualifications of Health Visitors) Regulations 1964 and apply the list of qualifications prescribed for health visitors employed by local health authorities or by voluntary organisations under arrangements with local health authorities to persons without regard to the sex of such persons.

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