STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1973 No. 63 (S.1)

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, SCOTLAND

The National Health Service (Qualifications of Health Visitors) (Scotland) Regulations 1973

Made - - -	15*th January* 1973
Laid before Parliament	24*th January* 1973
Coming into Operation	19*th February* 1973

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 65 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1947(**a**), and of all other powers enabling me in that behalf, I 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) (Scotland) Regulations 1973 and shall come into operation on 19th February 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;

"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 Auth-authority Social Services Act 1970(**c**).

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

Qualification 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

(**a**) 1947 c. 27. (**b**) 1962 c. 33. (**c**) 1970 c. 42. (**d**) 1889 c. 63.

(*b*) holds the health visitors certificate issued by the Royal Sanitary Association of Scotland under conditions approved by the Secretary of State; or

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

(*d*) held the appointment of health visitor immediately before 1st September 1965; or

(*e*) 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 (*d*) 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 1st September 1965 or by any other local health authority whose employment such person entered 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 (*e*) 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.

Dispensation

3. The Secretary of State may dispense with any of the requirements of these regulations in any case in which he is satisfied that the person whom it is proposed to employ as a health visitor is a registered general nurse with a midwifery qualification or appropriate midwifery training and that the local health authority is unable to obtain the services of a health visitor qualified in accordance with paragraphs (*a*), (*b*), (*c*), or (*e*) of the preceding regulation.

Revocation

4. The National Health Service (Qualifications of Health Visitors) (Scotland) Regulations 1965(**a**) are hereby revoked.

(sgd.) *Gordon Campbell,*

One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

St. Andrew's House,
Edinburgh.
15th January 1973.

(**a**) S.I. 1965/1490 (1965 II, p. 4338).

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations replace the National Health Service (Qualifications of Health Visitors) (Scotland) Regulations 1965 and apply the list of qualifications prescribed for health visitors employed by local health authorities or by voluntary organisations under arrangements with local health auhorities to persons without regard to the sex of such persons.

The position of existing employees without health visitors certificates is safeguarded and the existing power to dispense with the requirements of the regulations when a fully qualified health visitor is unobtainable is continued.

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