STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1968 No. 136

DANGEROUS DRUGS

The Dangerous Drugs (Notification of Addicts) Regulations 1968

Made - - - -	1*st February* 1968
Laid before Parliament	8*th February* 1968
Coming into Operation	22*nd February* 1968

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 11 of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1965(a) as extended by section 1(1) of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1967(b) and sections 5 and 8(3) of the said Act of 1967, I hereby make the following Regulations:—

1.—(1) Subject to paragraph (3) of this Regulation, any medical practitioner who attends a person who he considers, or has reasonable grounds to suspect, is addicted to any drug shall, within seven days of the attendance, furnish in writing to the Chief Medical Officer at the Home Office such of the following particulars with respect to that person as are known to the medical practitioner, that is to say, the name, address, sex, date of birth and national health service number of that person, the date of the attendance and the name of the drug or drugs concerned.

(2) For the purposes of the preceding paragraph, a person shall be regarded as addicted to a drug only if, as a result of repeated administration, he has become so dependent upon the drug that he has an overpowering desire for the administration of it to be continued.

(3) It shall not be necessary for a medical practitioner who attends a person to comply with the provisions of paragraph (1) of this Regulation in respect of that person if—

(*a*) the medical practitioner is of the opinion, formed in good faith, that the continued administration of the drug or drugs concerned is required for the purpose of relieving pain due to organic disease or injury; or

(*b*) the particulars which, apart from this paragraph, would have been required under those provisions to be furnished have, during the period of twelve months ending with the date of the attendance, been furnished in compliance with those provisions—

(i) by the medical practitioner; or

(ii) if the medical practitioner is a partner in or employed by a firm of general practitioners, by a medical practitioner who is a partner in or employed by that firm; or

(iii) if the attendance is on behalf of another medical practitioner, whether for payment or otherwise, by that medical practitioner; or

(iv) if the attendance is at a hospital, by a medical practitioner on the staff of that hospital.

(a) 1965 c. 15. (b) 1967 c. 82.

2. These Regulations and, in relation only to the requirements of these Regulations, sections 1, 2 and 3 of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1967 and sections 16 and 20 of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1965 shall apply to servants and agents of the Crown.

3.—(1) In these Regulations the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them, that is to say:—

"drug" means any substance for the time being specified in Part I of the Schedule to the Dangerous Drugs Act 1965;

"hospital" means—

(*a*) as respects England and Wales, a hospital within the meaning of section 79(1) of the National Health Service Act 1946(**a**) and includes a nursing home within the meaning of section 199(1) of the Public Health Act 1936(**b**), a mental nursing home within the meaning of section 14(2) of the Mental Health Act 1959(**c**) and a special hospital within the meaning of section 97 of that Act;

(*b*) as respects Scotland, a hospital within the meaning of section 80(1) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1947(**d**) and includes a nursing home within the meaning of section 10 of the Nursing Homes Registration (Scotland) Act 1938(**e**), a private hospital within the meaning of section 15(3) of the Mental Health (Scotland) Act 1960(**f**) and a state hospital within the meaning of section 89 of that Act.

(2) In these Regulations any reference to any enactment is a reference to that enactment as amended by any subsequent enactment.

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

4. These Regulations shall not extend to Northern Ireland.

5. These Regulations may be cited as the Dangerous Drugs (Notification of Addicts) Regulations 1968 and shall come into operation on 22nd February 1968.

James Callaghan,
One of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Home Office,
Whitehall.
1st February 1968.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations provide for the notification of drug addicts by medical practitioners to the Chief Medical Officer at the Home Office and apply their provisions, and such of the provisions of the Dangerous Drugs Acts of 1965 and 1967 as are necessary to implement them, to servants and agents of the Crown.

(a) 1946 c. 81. (b) 1936 c. 49. (c) 1959 c. 72.
(d) 1947 c. 27. (e) 1938 c. 73. (f) 1960 c. 61.
(g) 1889 c. 63.