STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1977 No. 1580

NURSES AND MIDWIVES

The Midwives (Qualifications of Supervisors) Regulations 1977

Made - - - - 27*th September* 1977

Coming into Operation 1*st November* 1977

The Secretary of State for Social Services, in exercise of powers conferred by section 17(3) of the Midwives Act 1951(**a**) and now vested in him(**b**), and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Midwives (Qualifications of Supervisors) Regulations 1977 and shall come into operation on 1st November 1977.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, "the Act" means the Midwives Act 1951 and other expressions have the same meanings as in the Act.

(2) The rules for the construction of Acts of Parliament contained in the Interpretation Act 1889(**c**) shall apply for the purposes of the interpretation of these regulations as they apply for the purposes of the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Supervisors of Midwives

3.—(1) A person to be appointed under section 17 of the Act by a local supervising authority to exercise supervision over midwives (hereinafter called a "Supervisor of Midwives") shall be a certified midwife, shall have had three years experience as a practising midwife not less than one year of which shall have been in the two years immediately preceding the appointment and, except in the case of a person who has given a written undertaking to attend an induction course within six months of appointment, shall have completed such a course not more than three years prior to the appointment.

(2) In this regulation an "induction course" referred to in paragraph (1) means a course approved by the Central Midwives Board for the training of persons in the duties of Supervisors of Midwives.

(**a**) 1951 c. 53.
(**b**) *See* The Secretary of State for Social Services Order 1968 (S.I. 1968/1699 (1968 III, p. 4585)) Art. 2.
(**c**) 1889 c. 63.

Revocation of Regulations

4. The Midwives (Qualifications of Supervisors) Regulations 1937**(a)** are hereby revoked but such revocation does not affect the validity of any appointment to which they applied.

David Ennals,
Secretary of State for Social Services.

27th September 1977.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations, which come into operation on 1st November 1977, prescribe the qualifications necessary for the appointment by local supervising authorities of persons to exercise supervision over certified midwives.

Regulation 3 requires qualification and recent experience as a midwife and provides for induction courses. Regulation 4 revokes the Midwives (Qualifications of Supervisors) Regulations 1937. Unlike the revoked regulations, these regulations make no provision for a separate category of medically qualified Supervisor nor do they require nursing qualifications of Supervisors who are not medically qualified.

(a) S.R. & O. 1937/398 (Rev. XV, p. 6: 1937, p. 1716).

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