STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1968 No. 1624

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, ENGLAND AND WALES

The National Health Service (Venereal Diseases) Regulations 1968

Made - - -	14*th October* 1968
Laid before Parliament	22*nd October* 1968
Coming into Operation	2*nd December* 1968

The Minister of Health, in exercise of his powers under section 12 of the National Health Service Act 1946(**a**) and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:—

1. These regulations may be cited as the National Health Service (Venereal Diseases) Regulations 1968 and shall come into operation on 2nd December 1968.

2. The Interpretation Act 1889(**b**) applies to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

3. Every Regional Hospital Board and every Board of Governors of a teaching hospital shall take all necessary steps to secure that any information obtained by officers of the Board with respect to persons examined or treated for venereal disease in a hospital for the administration of which the Board is responsible shall be treated as confidential *except for the purpose of communicating to a medical practitioner, or to a person employed under the direction of a medical practitioner in connection with the treatment of persons suffering from such disease or the prevention of the spread thereof, and for the purpose of such treatment or prevention.*

4. The National Health Service (Venereal Diseases) Regulations 1948(**c**) are hereby revoked.

Given under the official seal of the Minister of Health on 14th October 1968.

(L.S.)

Kenneth Robinson,
Minister of Health.

(**a**) 1946 c. 81. (**b**) 1889 c. 63.
(**c**) S.I. 1948/2517 (Rev. XV, p. 574: 1948 I, p. 2303).

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

The National Health Service (Venereal Diseases) Regulations 1948 required that information about persons attending Venereal Diseases Treatment Centres should be treated as confidential. These Regulations re-enact those regulations with an amendment which excludes from that requirement disclosure to certain persons for the purpose of treating persons suffering from these diseases or preventing their spread.

The words added by these regulations are printed in italics.