

THE HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1972

The Confidentiality and Disclosure of Information: General Medical Services and Alternative Provider Medical Services Directions (Northern Ireland) 2006

The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety^(a), in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 17 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972^(b), and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby gives the following Directions:

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) These Directions, which may be cited as the Confidentiality and Disclosure of Information: General Medical Services and Alternative Provider Medical Services Directions (Northern Ireland) 2006, are given to Health and Social Boards in Northern Ireland and shall come into force on 25th July 2006.

(2) In these Directions—

“1972 Order” means the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972;

“APMS contract” means arrangements made under Article 56(2)(b) of the 1972 Order for the provision of primary medical services^(c);

“default contract” means a contract under Article 5(3) of the Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004^(d);

“GMS Contract” means a contract under Article 57 of the 1972 Order;

“GMS Contract Regulations” means the Health and Personal Social Services (General Medical Services Contracts) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 ^(e); and

“relevant body” means— a Health and Social Services Board.

Compliance with the Code of Practice: Confidentiality and Disclosure of Information

2. In exercising any function, or in enforcing any right or obligation, pursuant to—

(a) a term of the GMS Contract that gives effect to paragraph 72 (provision of information) or 75 (annual return and review) of Schedule 5 to the GMS Contract Regulations;

(b) any equivalent terms to those specified in paragraph (a) in a default contract;

(c) any equivalent terms to those specified in paragraph (b) in an APMS contract,

a relevant body shall, insofar as it is relevant to its exercise of that function, or the enforcement of that right or obligation, act in accordance with paragraphs 23, 24, 30, 31, 34 to 36, 37 and 39 of the document entitled “Confidentiality and Disclosure of Information: General Medical Services

(a) S.I. 1999/283(N.I.) Article 3 (6).

(b) S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14)

(c) Article 56 was inserted into the Order by Article 3 of the Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 S.I. No 311 (N.I. 2)

(d) S.I. 2004 No 311 (N.I. 2)

(e) S.R. 2004 No. 140

(GMS) and Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) Code of Practice” dated 25th July 2006.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety on
25th July 2006



Senior Officer of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

Christine Jendoubi