



Department of
**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

www.dhsspsni.gov.uk

AN ROINN

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

MÁNNYSTRIE O

**Poustie, Resydènter Heisin
an Fowk Siccar**

From: The Chief Pharmaceutical Officer
Dr Norman Morrow FPS
Room D4.7, Castle Buildings
Upper Newtownards Road
Belfast, BT4 3SQ
Tel: (028) 9052 3219/Fax: (028) 9052 2335
E-Mail: norman.morrow@dhsspsni.gov.uk

July 2009

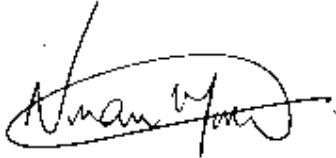
Dear

CONTROLLED DRUGS: LICENSING OF PARAMEDICS

1. The Department of Health (DHSSPSNI) has been working with the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) and with professional representatives to develop a safe and appropriate system of controlled drug licensing for paramedics in Northern Ireland who are working under the control of the NIAS and for those working in a private capacity (“private paramedics”).
2. Regarding private paramedics, it has been assessed that the most appropriate method of ensuring access to specific controlled substances (as described in the Prescriptions Only Medicines (Human Use) Order) while maintaining appropriate controls, is through a system of individual licensing.
3. Private paramedics seeking to possess diazepam or morphine for use in their professional practice in Northern Ireland must apply to the Department on the form available on the Department’s website (<http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk>) and forward it to the address specified.
4. Following receipt of the completed form, it will be necessary for an on-site inspection to be carried out by Dr M Mawhinney, Head of Inspection and Investigation, DHSSPSNI to assess storage conditions and compliance with statutory record-keeping requirements.

5. You are reminded that before controlled substances can be imported/exported to/from the Republic of Ireland, the Home Office must be contacted regarding import/export licensing.
6. Special arrangements have been developed in conjunction with Home Office colleagues for those travelling to and from GB with patients and further details will be available on the Departmental and the Home Office websites.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Norman C Morrow', enclosed within a large, loopy oval flourish.

NORMAN C MORROW