

**THE MISUSE OF DRUGS REGULATIONS 2001 : GROUP AUTHORITY  
FOR NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (NHS) AMBULANCE PARAMEDICS  
AND EMPLOYING NHS AMBULANCE TRUSTS**

In pursuance of Regulations 8(3), 9(3) and 10(3) of The Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001, the Secretary of State hereby authorises:

1. the person in charge, or acting person in charge, of any NHS ambulance trust to supply or offer to supply:

**diazepam** and/or **morphine sulphate injection** (to a maximum strength of 20mg) and/or **morphine sulphate oral**

to any registered paramedic serving with or employed by that trust.

In pursuance of the above Regulations, the Secretary of State further authorises:

2. registered paramedics, serving or employed at any approved ambulance station, to supply or offer to supply:

**diazepam** and/or **morphine sulphate injection** (to a maximum strength of 20mg) and/or **morphine sulphate oral**

to any person who may lawfully have any of these drugs in their possession; and

3. registered paramedics, serving or employed at any approved ambulance station to possess diazepam and/or morphine sulphate injection (to a maximum strength of 20mg) and/or morphine sulphate oral

for the purposes of that service or employment, subject to and in accordance with the following terms:

- a. paragraph 2 does not extend to the supply of the drugs, or any offer to supply them, otherwise than as required for the purpose of its administration for the immediate necessary treatment of sick or injured persons
- b. paragraph 3 does not extend to the possession of the drugs, otherwise than as required than as required for the purposes of their administration for the immediate necessary treatment of sick or injured persons,

and subject to the following conditions:

- i. any drug in the possession of any person by virtue of this authority shall be produced by that person for inspection when so required by a constable, an officer of the Home Office (Drug Licensing) or any person authorised in writing by the Secretary of State for the purpose of regulation 26(1) of those Regulations; and
- ii. if any drug in the possession of any person by virtue of this authority is stolen or otherwise lost, the loss shall be reported by that person as soon as possible to a constable, and to the Secretary of State by giving notice in writing to that effect to the Head of Licensing, Home Office (Drug Licensing), 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Peel Building, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF.

In this authority:

- “registered paramedic” has the same meaning as in the Prescription Only Medicines (Human Use) Order 1997
- “approved ambulance station” means any ambulance station approved for this purpose in England and Wales by an authority or trust constituted for the purposes of the National Health Service and in Scotland by the Common Services Agency of the Scottish National Health Service.

Head of Licensing

Home Office (Drug Licensing)  
Peel Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF

8 July 2008

Notes

- 1. Under section 30 of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, the Secretary of State may modify or revoke this authority at any time.*
- 2. Regulations 19, 20, 21 and 22 of The Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001 impose record-keeping requirements for controlled drugs.*
- 3. Regulation 27 of the above Regulations imposes requirements regarding the destruction of controlled drugs.*
- 4. The Misuse of Drugs (Safe Custody) Regulations 1973 impose requirements regarding the safe storage of controlled drugs.*