

To all NHS MIDWIVES in Scotland

Date 1 July 2022
Your Ref
Our Ref IY/RMD/MATEXEMPT

Dear Colleague

APPLICATION FOR MATERNITY EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES

You will be familiar with the application form FW8 issued on pregnancy or to patients who had a baby in the past year which enables them to claim free dental treatment and in the past, prescriptions. These forms were then processed by NHS Practitioner Services and an exemption certificate issued. This has been quite a costly administrative exercise and also a duplication of effort given all the details are captured by you on the FW8 form.

The Scottish Government has confirmed that the actual exemption certificate is not required as long as other evidence is available and as such, it has been agreed that the Form FW8 will be accepted in Scotland and therefore there is no requirement for the certificate. The FW8 form should continue to clearly identify the patient and have expected date of confinement recorded as well as signed by the appropriate nurse/practitioner. The patient can then present this form to the Dentist when applying for dental treatment. If your patient is likely to travel regularly to the rest of the UK, where prescription charges apply, they should contact our office where we can provide additional confirmation on the use of the FW8.

This change will be effective from **1 August 2022** and any FW8 applications received after that date will be returned to the patient unless as previously stated that this is required for use in the other UK countries.

If the patient has any questions on this matter, please ask them to email us at:
For patients resident in:

Borders/Fife/Forth Valley & Lothian Health Board areas: nss.psdedinburgh@nhs.scot

Grampian/Tayside/Highland/Orkney & Shetland: nss.psd-gmsaberdeen@nhs.scot

Greater Glasgow & Clyde/Ayrshire & Arran/Dumfries & Galloway/Lanarkshire & Western Isles:
nss.groexemptions@nhs.scot

Yours sincerely
IAIN YOUNG
Head of Service



Chair Keith Redpath
Chief Executive Mary Morgan



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Chief Executive Mary Morgan

*NHS National Services Scotland is the common name of the
Common Services Agency for the Scottish Health Service.*