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Statutory Rules 1996 No. *h*¹

235

Health Insurance Regulations² (Amendment)

I, THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL of the Commonwealth of Australia, acting with the advice of the Federal Executive Council, make the following Regulations under the *Health Insurance Act 1973*.

Dated *h* 1996.

23 October

h WILLIAM DEANE /
Governor-General

By His Excellency's Command,

h
Minister for Health and Family Services

MICHAEL WOOLDRIDGE /

1. Commencement

1.1 These Regulations commence on 1 November 1996.

2. Amendment

2.1 The Health Insurance Regulations are amended as set out in these Regulations.

3. Regulation 2 (Interpretation)**3.1 Definition of “investigation”:**

Omit from paragraph (b) “complaints”, substitute “complaint”.

4. Regulation 27 (Prescribed authorities and persons for the purposes of subsection 130 (3A) of the Act)**4.1 Subregulation 27 (3):**

Omit “holding occupying”, substitute “holding, occupying”.

4.2 Subparagraph 27 (4) (c) (iii):

Omit the subparagraph, substitute:

“(iii) is applying to be registered or licensed;
to practice as a medical practitioner; or”.

5. Regulation 29 (Referral to specialists or consultant physicians)**5.1 After subregulation 29 (4), insert:**

“(4A) If the referring practitioner is a specialist, or consulting physician, the referral must:

- (a) be endorsed with the name of the general practitioner nominated by the patient; or
- (b) if the patient is unwilling or unable to nominate a general practitioner for the purposes of paragraph (a)—contain a statement to that effect.”.

6. Regulation 31 (Validity of referrals to specialists or consultant physicians)**6.1 Subregulation 31 (1):**

Omit “A referral”, substitute “Subject to subregulation (1A), a referral”.

6.2 After subregulation 31 (1), insert:

“(1A) A referral given by a specialist, or consultant physician, is valid:

- (a) if the referred patient is a patient in a hospital:
 - (i) until the patient ceases to be a patient in a hospital; or

- (ii) until 3 months after the first service given in accordance with the referral;
whichever is the later; or
- (b) in any other case—until 3 months after the first service given in accordance with the referral.”.

7. Schedule 3 (Prescribed authorities and persons—subsection 130 (3A) of the Act)

7.1 Part 1, clause 3:

Omit “seperate”, substitute “separate”.

7.2 Part 5, item 4:

Omit “south”, substitute “South”.

NOTES

1. Notified in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* on *h* . 30 October 1996
2. Statutory Rules 1975 No. 80 as amended by 1975 Nos. 118, 125 and 135 (disallowed by the Senate on 4 September 1975); 1976 Nos. 202, 214 and 215; 1977 Nos. 26 and 44; 1978 Nos. 95 and 177; 1979 No. 230; 1981 Nos. 198 and 317; 1982 Nos. 157, 251 and 287; 1983 Nos. 106, 231, 253 and 255; 1984 Nos. 5 and 162; 1985 Nos. 36, 50, 95, 205 and 290; 1986 Nos. 19, 20, 87 and 326; 1987 Nos. 32, 163 and 166; 1988 No. 314; 1989 Nos. 6, 54, 117 and 293; 1990 No. 25; 1991 Nos. 82, 314, 365 and 441; 1992 Nos. 42, 111, 239, 335 and 431; 1993 Nos. 106, 130 and 154; 1994 Nos. 20, 27, 111, 137, 138, 328 and 413; 1995 Nos. 9, 25, 287, 300 and 409.
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1996 Nos. 231 and 234/