1976 No. 615

SOCIAL SECURITY

The Social Security (Medical Evidence) Regulations 1976

Made - - - - 21st April 1976

Laid before Parliament 30th April 1976

Coming into Operation 4th October 1976

The Secretary of State for Social Services, in exercise of powers conferred upon him by section 115(1) of, and Schedule 13 to, the Social Security Act 1975(a) and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, after reference to the National Insurance Advisory Committee, hereby makes the following regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

- 1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Social Security (Medical Evidence) Regulations 1976, and shall come into operation on 4th October 1976.
 - (2) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires— "the Act" means the Social Security Act 1975;
 - ▶¹"the Contributions and Benefits Act" means the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992(b);◀
 - ▶2"the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations" means the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008;
 - "limited capability for work" has the meaning given in section 1(4) of the Welfare Reform Act 2007;
 - "limited capability for work assessment" means the assessment of whether a person has limited capability for work as set out in regulation 19(2) of, and in Schedule 2 to, the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations;◀
 - ▶ 3"personal capability assessment" means the assessment provided for in section 171C of the Contributions and Benefits Act(c): ◀
 - ▶4"registered midwife" means a midwife who is registered as a midwife with the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting under the Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Act 1979(d);◀

"doctor" means a registered medical practitioner:

- "signature" means, in relation to any statement or certificate given in accordance with these regulations, the name by which the person giving that statement or certificate, as the case may be, is usually known (any name other than the surname being either in full or otherwise indicated) written by that person in his own handwriting; and "signed" shall be construed accordingly.
- (3) Any reference in these regulations to any provisions made by or contained in any enactment or instrument shall, except in so far as the context otherwise requires, be construed as a reference to that provision as amended or extended by any enactment or instrument and as including a reference to any provision which it re-enacts or replaces, or which may re-enact or replace it, with or without modification.

Defn. inserted in reg. 1(2) by reg. 2(2) of S.I. 1994/2975 as from 13.4.95.

²Defns. of "the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations", "limited capability for work" & "limited capability for work assessment" inserted by reg. 68(2) of S.I. 2008/1554 as from 27.10.08.

³Defn. "personal capability assessment" inserted by reg. 5(a) of S.I. 1999/3109 as from 3.4.00.

⁴Defn. substituted in reg. 1(2) by reg. 2 of S.I. 1987/409 as from 6.4.87.

⁽a) 1975 c. 14.

⁽b) 1992 c. 4.

⁽c) 1992 c. 4. Section 171C was inserted by section 5 of the Social Security (Incapacity for Work) Act 1994 (c. 18) and amended by section 61 of the Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999 (c. 30).

⁽d) 1979 c. 36.

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Regs. 2-4

heading to reg. 2 & paras. (1), (1)(a) & (2) by reg. 68(3)(a)-(c) of S.I. 2008/1554 as from 27.10.08. ²²Words inserted into reg. 2(1) by reg. 2(1) of S.I. 1982/699 as from 14.6.82. ³Words substituted in reg. 2(1) by reg. 2(3)(a)(i) of S.I. 1994/2975 as from 13.4.95. ⁴Words substituted in reg. 2(1) and 2(1)(c) by

reg. 6(a) of S.I. 2000/ 590 as from 3.4.00.

substituted for words in

reg. 2(1) by reg. 3(2) of S.I. 1992/247 as from

⁵Sub-paras. (a)-(c)

9.3.92.

¹Words inserted in

⁶Sub-paras. (c) and (d) substituted in reg. 2(1) for sub-para. (c) & words inserted in reg. 2(2) by reg. 2(3) of S.I. 1994/2975 as from 13.4.95.

⁷Words substituted and words inserted in reg. 2(1)(d) by reg. 4(2) of S.I. 1995/987 as from 13.4.95.

⁸Words substituted in reg. 2(2) by reg. 5(b) of S.I. 1999/3109 as from 3.4.00.

⁹Words substituted in reg. 2(3) by reg. 3 of S.I. 1987/409 as from 6.4.87. ¹⁰Words inserted in reg. 2(3) by reg. 2(2) of S.I. 2001/2931 as from 28.9.01.

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(4) The rules for the construction of Acts of Parliament contained in the Interpretation Act 1889(a) shall apply in relation to this instrument and in relation to the revocation effected by it as if this instrument, the regulations revoked by it and regulations revoked by the regulations so revoked were Acts of Parliament, and as if each revocation were a repeal.

Evidence of incapacity for work ▶¹, limited capability for work ◄ and confinement

- **2.**—(1) ▶²Subject to regulation $5 \blacktriangleleft ▶$ ³where a person claims he is entitled to any benefit, allowance or advantage (other than industrial injuries benefit or statutory sick pay), and his entitlement to that benefit, allowance or advantage depends on his being incapable of work ▶¹, or having limited capability for work ◄, then in respect of each day until he has been assessed for the purposes of the ▶⁴personal capability assessment ◀ ▶¹ or the limited capability for work assessment ◄, he shall provide evidence of such incapacity ▶¹or limited capability for work ◄◄
 - ▶ 5(a) by means of a certificate in the form of a statement in writing given by a doctor in accordance with the rules set out in Part I of Schedule 1 to these Regulations on the form set out in Part II of that Schedule; or
 - (b) where a doctor-
 - (i) has not given a statement under sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph since the patient was examined and wishes to give such a statement but more than one day has passed since the examination; or
 - (ii) advises that the patient should refrain from work on the basis of a written report from another doctor,

by means of a special statement given in accordance with the rules set out in Part I of Schedule 1A to these Regulations on the form set out in Part II of that Schedule; or

- ▶ 6(c) ▶ 4where the question of whether a person is capable or incapable of work ▶ 1 or whether a person has or does not have limited capability for work ◀ falls to be determined in accordance with the personal capability assessment ▶ 1 or the limited capability for work assessment ◄ and the Secretary of State so requests, a statement in writing given by a doctor in accordance with the rules set out in Part I of Schedule 1B to these Regulations on the form set out in Part II of that Schedule; or
 - (d) where it would be unreasonable to require a person to provide a statement ▶ 7in accordance with sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) ◄, such other evidence as may be sufficient to show that he should refrain ▶ 7(or should have refrained) ◄ from work by reason of some specific disease or bodily or mental disablement. ◄ ◄
- (2) Every person to whom paragraph (1) applies \triangleright^6 who has not been assessed for the purposes of the \triangleright^8 personal capability assessment $\blacktriangleleft \triangleright^1$ or the limited capability for work assessment \blacktriangleleft shall, before he returns to work, furnish evidence of the date on which he will become fit to resume work either in accordance with rule 10 of Part I of Schedule 1 to these regulations, or by such other means as may be sufficient in the circumstances of the case.
 - (3) Every woman who claims maternity benefit shall furnish evidence-
 - (a) where the claim is made in respect of expectation of confinement, that she is pregnant and as to the stage which she has reached in her pregnancy; or
 - (b) where the claim is made by virtue of the fact of confinement, that she has been confined.

and shall furnish such evidence ▶°by means of a maternity certificate ◄ given by a doctor or by a ▶°registered midwife ◄ ▶¹¹not earlier than the beginning of the 20th week before the week in which she is expected to be confined, ◄ in accordance with the rules set out in Part I of Schedule 2 to these regulations in the appropriate form as set out in Part II of that Schedule or by such other means as may be sufficient in the circumstances of any particular case.

[Regulation 3 (amendment of the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1975) revoked by regulation 32 of and Schedule 5 to S.I. 1979/628 as from 9.7.79.]

[Regulation 4 (transitional provisions and revocation) revoked by regulation 2(3) of S.I. 1982/699 as from 14.6.82.]

⁽a) 1889 c. 63, to be construed in accordance with the Interpretation Act 1978 (c. 30) s. 25(2).

▶¹ Self-certificate for first 7 days of a spell of incapacity for work \blacktriangleright ² or limited capability for work \blacktriangleleft

- **5.** \longrightarrow ³(1) \blacktriangleright ⁴The evidence of incapacity \blacktriangleright ² or limited capability for work ◀ required for the purposes of determining entitlement to a benefit, allowance or advantage referred to in regulation 2(1) ◀–
 - (a) for a spell of incapacity which lasts less than 8 days, $\triangleright^2 \blacktriangleleft$
- (b) in respect of any of the first 7 days of a longer spell of incapacity; may consist of a self certificate instead of a certificate in the form of a statement in writing given by a doctor in accordance with regulation 2(1). ◀
 - $ightharpoonup^2$ (c) for a period of limited capability for work which lasts less than 8 days; or
 - (d) in respect of any of the first 7 days of a longer period of limited capability for work,
 - (2) For the purpose of this regulation:-
 - ▶ 5"self-certificate" means either—
 - (i) a declaration made by the claimant in writing, on a form approved for the purpose by the Secretary of State; or
 - (ii) where the claimant has made a claim for employment and support allowance in accordance with regulation 4G of the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1987, an oral declaration by the claimant.

that the claimant has been unfit for work from a date or for a period specified in the declaration and may include a statement that the claimant expects to continue to be unfit for work on days subsequent to the date on which it is made;◀

▶6"spell of incapacity" has the meaning given to it by section 171B(3) of the Contributions and Benefits Act.◀◀

¹Reg. 5 inserted by reg. 2(2) of S.I. 1982/699 as from 14.6.82. ²Words inserted in heading to reg. 5 and para. (1), words omitted in sub-para (a) & sub-

para. (1), words omitted in sub-para. (a) & sub-paras. (c) & (d) added by reg. 68(4)(a) & (b) of S.I. 2008/1554 as from 27.10.08.

³Para. (1) of reg. 5 substituted by reg. 2 of S.I. 1989/1686 as from 9.10.89.

⁴Words substituted in reg. 5(1) by reg. 2(4)(a) of S.I. 1994/2975 as from 13.4.95.

⁵Defn. of "self certificate" substituted by reg. 68(4)(c) of S.I. 2008/1554 as from 27.10.08.

⁶Defn. substituted in reg. 5(2) by reg. 2(4)(b) of S.I. 1994/2975 as from 13.4.95.

David Ennals
Secretary of State for Social Services

21st April 1976

SCHEDULE 1

Regulation 2(1)

PART I

RULES

- 1. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires—
 - "Claimant" means the person in respect of whom a statement is given in accordance with these rules;
 - "doctor" means a registered medical practitioner not being the claimant;
 - "doctor's statement" means a statement given in accordance with these rules;
 - "2 weeks" means any period of 14 consecutive days.
- 2. The doctor's statement shall be in the form set out in Part II of this Schedule.
- 3. Where the claimant is on the list of a doctor providing general medical services under the National Health Service Act 1946(a), or the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1947(b), and is being attended by such a doctor, the doctor's statement shall be on a form provided by the Secretary of State for the purpose and shall be signed by that doctor.
- 4. In any other case, the doctor's statement shall be either on a form provided by the Secretary of State for the purpose or in a form substantially to the like effect, and shall be signed by the doctor attending the claimant.
- 5. Every doctor's statement shall be completed in ink or other indelible substance, and shall contain the following particulars:-
 - (a) the claimant's name'
 - (b) the date of the examination on which the doctor's statement is based;
 - (c) the diagnosis of the claimant's disorder in respect of which the doctor is advising the claimant to refrain from work or, as the case may be, which has caused the claimant's absence from work;
 - (d) the date on which the doctor's statement is given;
 - (e) the address of the doctor.

and shall bear, opposite the words "Doctor's signature", the signature of the doctor making the statement written after there have been entered the claimant's name and the doctor's diagnosis.

6. Subject to rules 7 and 8 below, the diagnosis of the claimant's disorder in respect of which the doctor is advising the claimant to refrain from work or, as the case may be, which has caused the claimant's absence from work shall be

⁽a) 1946 c. 81.

⁽b) 1947 c. 27.

specified as precisely as the doctor's knowledge of the claimant's condition at the time of the examination permits.

- 7. Where, in the doctor's opinion, a disclosure to the claimant of the precise disorder would be prejudicial to his well-being, the diagnosis may be specified less precisely.
- 8. In the case of an initial examination by a doctor in respect of a disorder stated by the claimant to have caused incapacity for work, where—
 - (a) there are no clinical signs of that disorder, and
- (b) in the doctor's opinion, the claimant need not refrain from work, instead of specifying a diagnosis "unspecified" may be entered.
- 9. A doctor's statement must be given on a date not later than one day after the date of the examination on which it is based, and no further doctor's statement based on the same examination shall be furnished other than a doctor's statement by way of replacement of an original which has been lost or mislaid, in which case it shall be clearly marked "duplicate".
- 10. Where, in the doctor's opinion, the claimant will become fit to resume work on a day not later than 2 weeks after the date of the examination on which the doctor's statement is based, the doctor's statement shall specify that day.
- 11. Subject to rules 12 and 13 below, the doctor's statement shall specify the minimum period during which, in the doctor's opinion, the claimant should, by reason of his disorder, refrain from work.
- 12. The period specified shall begin on the date of the examination on which the doctor's statement is based and shall not exceed 6 months unless the claimant has, on the advice of a doctor, refrained from work for at least 6 months immediately preceding that date.

13. Where-

- (a) the claimant has, on the advice of a doctor, refrained from work for at least 6 months immediately preceding the date of the examination on which the doctor's statement is based, and
- (b) in the doctor's opinion, it will be necessary for the claimant to refrain from work for the foreseeable future.

instead of specifying a period, the doctor may, having regard to the circumstances of the particular case, enter the words "until further notice".

- 14. The Notes set out in Part III of this Schedule shall accompany the form of doctor's statement provided by the Secretary of State.
- 15. A doctor may, having regard to the circumstances of the particular case, indicate on the doctor's statement that the claimant should be considered for vocational rehabilitation.

Sch. 1

PART II FORM OF DOCTOR'S STATEMENT DOCTOR'S STATEMENT

I examined you today/yestero	-	
(a) you need not refrain from work	(b)	you should refrain from work for OR until
Diagnosis of your disorder causing absence from work		OK UIICII
Doctor's remarks		
Doctor's Date of signature		signing
		Recommendation for vocational rehabilitation

PART III

THE NOTES

The following notes shall accompany the form of doctor's statement provided by the Secretary of State:-

On the doctor's statement:-

- (1) After the words "you should refrain from work for", the period entered must not exceed 6 months unless the patient has, on the advice of a doctor, already refrained from work for a continuous period of 6 months.
 - (2) After the words "you should refrain from work until"-
 - (a) if the patient is being given a date when he can return to work the date entered should not be more than 2 weeks after the date of the examination:
 - (b) if the patient has already been incapable of work for at least 6 months and recovery of capacity for work in the foreseeable future is not expected "further notice" may be entered.

Sch. 1A

▶SCHEDULE 1A

Regulation 2(1)

Schedule 1A inserted by reg. 3(3) of S.I. 1992/247 as from 9.3.92.

PART I

RULES

- 1. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires—
 - "claimant" means the person in respect of whom a statement is given in accordance with these rules;
 - "doctor" means a registered medical practitioner not being the claimant;
 - "special statement" means the form prescribed in Part II of this Schedule.
- 2. Where a doctor advises a claimant to refrain from work on the basis of a written report which he has received from another doctor or where a doctor has not issued a statement since the claimant was examined and he wishes to issue a statement more than a day after the examination he shall use the special statement.
- **3.** The special statement shall be completed in the manner described in paragraph 5 of Part I to Schedule 1.
- **4.** Subject to rules 5 and 6 below, the diagnosis of the claimant's disorder in respect of which the doctor is advising the claimant to refrain from work or as the case may be, which has caused the claimant's absence from work shall be specified as precisely as the doctor's knowledge of the claimant's condition permits.
- **5.** Where, in the doctor's opinion, a disclosure to the claimant of the precise disorder would be prejudicial to his well being, the diagnosis may be specified less precisely.
- **6.** In a case of a disorder stated by the claimant to have causes incapacity for work, where–
 - (a) no clinical signs have been found of that disorder, and
- (b) in the doctor's opinion, the claimant need not refrain from work, instead of specifying a diagnosis "unspecified" may be entered.
- 7. Part B of the special statement must only be given on a date not later than one month after the date of the written report on which the special statement is based and that part shall only be used where the claimant is being advised to refrain from work for a specified period of not more than one month.

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PART II

FORM OF SPECIAL STATEMENT

FOR SOCIAL SECURITY AND STATUTORY SICK PAY PURPOSES ONLY Special Statement by the Doctor

In confidence to					
Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms					
(A) I examined you on the	(B) I have not examined you but, recent written report from-	on the basis of a			
following dates	Doctor				
and advised you that you should refrain from work	I have advised you that you shot	Address)			
From to		from work for/until			
Diagnosis causing absence from work	of	disorder			
Doctor's remarks					
Doctor's	Date of				
signature	signing	signing			
The special circumstances in which Evidence for Social Security and Statuto	this form may be used are described in y Sick Pay purposes".	the handbook "Medical			

Sch. 1B

▶SCHEDULE 1B

Regulation 2(1)(c)

Sch. 1B inserted by reg. 3 of and Sch. to S.I. 1994/2975 as from 13,4.95.

PART I

RULES

- 1. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires—
 - "claimant" means the person in respect of whom a statement is given in accordance with these rules;
 - "doctor" means a registered medical practitioner not being the claimant;
 - "▶personal capability assessment

 statement" means a statement given by a doctor in accordance with these rules.

Words substituted in paras. 1-3 by reg. 5(c) of S.I. 1999/3109 as from 3.4.2000.

- 2. Where the Secretary of State has requested that the claimant provide a ▶ personal capability assessment ✓ statement, that statement shall be provided in the form prescribed in Part II of this Schedule notwithstanding that the claimant has already provided a statement in accordance with Schedule 1 or 1A.
- 3. The \triangleright personal capability assessment \triangleleft statement shall be completed in accordance with rules 3, 4, 5 \triangleright and 9 to 13 \triangleleft of Part I to Schedule 1.
 - 4. Subject to rule 5 below, the diagnosis of-
 - (a) the disorder in respect of which the doctor is advising the claimant to refrain from work or, as the case may be, which has caused the claimant's absence from work; and
 - (b) any other condition which could affect the claimant's capacity for work,

shall be specified as precisely as the doctor's knowledge of the claimant's condition at the time of the examination permits.

- 5. Where, in the doctor's opinion, a disclosure to the claimant of the precise disorder would be prejudicial to his well being, the diagnosis may be specified less precisely.
- **6.** The notes set out in Part III of this Schedule shall accompany the form of doctor's statement provided by the Secretary of State.

Ref. substituted in para. 3 by reg. 4(3) of S.I. 1995/987 as from 13.4.95. Sch. 1B

PART II FORM OF DOCTOR'S STATEMENT

THIS STATEMENT SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR PEOPLECL AIMING STATUTORY SICK PAY FROM THEIR EMPLOYER

	11113	STATEMENT SHOOLD <u>NOT</u>	BE USED FOR FEOFLE CLAIMING.	STATUTORT SICKFAT PROWITHEIREN	IFLOTEK.		
	Doctor's Statement						
		onfidence to Mrs/Miss/Ms					
Words substituted by reg. 5(b) of S.I. 1999/3109 as from 3.4.2000.	Note for Doctor—We are making an assessment of your patient's eligibility for Incapacity Benefit and other state benefits under the terms of the ▶personal capability assessment ◀. Please complete the following boxes.						
	Main diagnosis (be as precise as possible).						
	Other diagnoses						
	(inciaccu No evide infor	tracy and detail will of the for Doctor—While the for Doctor—While the following the f	te the ▶personal capability the should refrain from his us not be part of the all work wing statement based to take the part of the all work wing statement based to the take	abling effects of the condition, treatment and progress— uests for completion of a medical report). resonal capability assessment is being carried out, we need frain from his usual occupation. Please provide the following t of the all work assessment). tement based upon the current guidance to certifying you today/yesterday and advised you that: (b) You should refrain from your usual occupation for (insert period)			
				OR until			
	Doctor's signature		Date sign				
					Form Med 4		

PART III

THE NOTES

The following notes shall accompany the form of a doctor's statement provided by the Secretary of State:

- 1. After the words on the doctor's statement "you should refrain from your usual occupation"-
 - (i) if the patient is being given a date when he can return to work, the date entered should not be more than 2 weeks after the date on which the statement is issued:
 - (ii) if recovery of capacity for work in the foreseeable future is not expected, "further notice" may be entered.
- 2. The "remarks" box should be used to provide additional information; including further details of diagnosed conditions, the disabling effect of such conditions, and notes on the patient's treatment and progress. Accuracy and detail will avoid requests for completion of a medical report.
- **3.** The "remarks" box should also be used to state whether or not the patient is able to travel a reasonable distance to a medical examination as a result of his condition. If no entry is made, it will be assumed that the patient can travel.
- **4.** This form of doctor's statement should not be used where the patient is claiming statutory sick pay from their employer. Form Med 3 should be used for that purpose. ◀

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Sch. 2

Sch. substituted by reg. 4 of S.I. 1987/409 as from 6 4 87

▶SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 2(3)

PART I

RULES

- 1. In these rules any reference to a woman is a reference to the woman in respect of whom a maternity certificate is given in accordance with these rules.
- **2.** A maternity certificate shall be given by a doctor or registered midwife attending the woman and shall not be given by the woman herself.
- **3.** The maternity certificate shall be on a form provided by the Secretary of State for the purpose and the wording shall be that set out in the appropriate part of the form specified in Part II of this Schedule.
- **4.** Every maternity certificate shall be completed in ink or other indelible substance and shall contain the following particulars—
 - (a) the woman's name;
 - (b) the week in which the woman is expected to be confined or, if the maternity certificate is given after confinement, the date of that confinement and the date the confinement was expected to take place ▶◄:
 - (c) the date of the examination on which the maternity certificate is based;
 - (d) the date on which the maternity certificate is signed; and
 - (e) the address of the doctor or where the maternity certificate is signed by a registered midwife the personal identification number given to her by the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting ("UKCC") on her registration in Part 10 of the register maintained under section 10 of the Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors Act 1979(a) and the expiry date of that registration,,

and shall bear opposite the word "Signature", the signature of the person giving the maternity certificate written after there has been entered on the maternity certificate the woman's name and the expected date or, as the case may be, the date of confinement.

5. After a maternity certificate has been given, no further maternity certificate bases on the same examination shall be furnished other than a maternity certificate by way of replacement of an original which has been lost or mislaid, in which case it shall be clearly marked "duplicate".

Words deleted from and words substituted in para. 4 by reg. 21 of S.I. 1991/2284 as from 1.11.91.

Sch. 2

▶¹PART II

FORM OF CERTIFICATE

Part II of Sch. 2 substituted by reg. 22 of S.I. 1991/2284 as from 1.11.91.

MATERNITY CERTIFICATE			
Please fill in this form in ink			
Name of patient			
Fill in this part if you are giving the certificate before the confinement. Do not fill this in more ▶²than 20 weeks ◀ before the week the baby is expected.	Fill in this part if you are giving the certificate after the confinement. I certify that I attended you in connection with the birth which took place on/ when you were In my opinion your babay was expected in the week that includes//	² Words substituted in Part II of Sch. 2 by reg 2(3)(a) of S.I. 2001/2931 as from 28.9.01.	
I certify that I examined you on the date given below. In my opinion you can expect to have your baby in the week that includes/	The state of the s		
Date of examination/	Registered midwives		
Date of signing/	Please give your UKCC Personal Identification Number and the expiry date of your registration with the UKCC.		
Signature			
	Doctors Please stamp your name and address here if the form has not been stamped by the ▶³Health Authority	³ Words substituted in Part II of Sch. 2 by reg 2(3)(b) of S.I. 2001/ 2931 as from 28.9.01.	
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations)

The Regulations provide for the manner in which evidence of incapacity for work or of expected confinement or confinement is to be given for the purposes of a claim for benefit under the Social Security Act 1975 for which evidence is required. The Regulations replace the Social Security (Medical Certification) Regulations 1975 ("the 1975 Regulations") which are revoked.

The Regulations and Rules in Schedule 1 prescribe a certificate in the form of a doctor's statement in which the issuing doctor advises the claimant that he need not refrain from work or, as the case may be, that he should refrain from work for a period of up to 6 months, or longer in certain circumstances. Certificates for the purposes of maternity benefit are prescribed in Schedule 2 and correspond to those in the 1975 Regulations. The Regulations amend the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1975 so that a doctor's statement and a special statement based on a written report from another doctor may be accepted for the purposes of forward allowances of certain benefits.

The Report of the National Insurance Advisory Committee dated 10th March 1976 on the draft of these Regulations referred to them is contained in House of Commons Paper No. 349 (Session 1975-76) published by Her Majesty's Stationery office.