
D I R E C T I O N S

THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, ENGLAND

The Alternative Provider Medical Services (Amendment) Directions 2025

The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 98A(3), 272(7) and (8) of the National Health Service Act 2006(a) gives the following Directions.

Citation and commencement

- 1.—(1) These Directions may be cited as the Alternative Provider Medical Services (Amendment) Directions 2025.
- (2) These Directions come into force on the 21st of July 2025 except as otherwise provided for in paragraph (3).
- (3) Direction 2(3) comes into force on 1st October 2025.
- (4) These Directions are given to NHS England(b) .

Amendment to the Alternative Provider Medical Services Directions 2022

- 2.—(1) The Alternative Provider Medical Services Direction 2022(c) are amended as follows.
- (2) In direction 7 (other contractual terms) in paragraph 1—
 - (a) after sub-paragraph (k) insert “(ka) regulation 67J (recording and reviewing patient safety events)”.
- (3) In direction 14 (mandatory terms of an APMS contract under which essential services are to be provided) in paragraph (1)—
 - (a) after sub-paragraph (d) insert “(da) regulation 61A (enabling access to patient records through GP Connect)”.
- (4) In direction 16 (registered patients from outside practice area: variation of contractual terms) in paragraph (1)—
 - (a) at the end of the paragraph insert “in accordance with Direction 14(1)(na)”.
- (5) In direction 17 (patients list) after paragraph 1(b) insert—

“(c) Where the address of a person who is on the contractor’s list of patients is no longer known to NHS England, NHS England must—

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- (a) 2006 c.41. Section 98A of the National Health Service Act 2006 (“the Act”) was inserted by section 49(1) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 (c.7) (“the 2012 Act”). The powers conferred by these sections are exercisable by the Secretary of State only in relation to England, by virtue of section 271(1) of the Act.
- (b) NHS England (formerly known as the National Health Service Commissioning Board) was established by section 1H of the Act. Section 1H was inserted into the Act by section 9(1) of the 2012 Act. The National Health Service Commissioning Board was renamed “NHS England” by section 1 of the Health and Care Act 2022 (c.31).
- (c) The Alternative Provider Medical Services Directions 2022 were signed on 29th September 2022 and amended by the Alternative Provider Medical Services (Amendment) Directions 2023 signed on 10th March 2023 and the Alternative Provider Medical Services (Amendment) (No. 2) Directions 2023 signed on 28th March 2023 and the Alternative Provider Medical Services (Amendment) Directions 2024 signed on the 22nd May 2024. Hard copies are available from the Department of Health and Social Care, GP Policy Team, 39 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0EU.

- (i) give notice in writing to the contractor that it intends, at the end of the period of three months beginning with the date on which notice was given, to remove the person from the contractor's list of patients; and
- (ii) at the end of the period referred to in sub-paragraph (a), remove the person from the contractor's list of patients unless, before the end of that period, the contractor satisfies NHS England that the person is a patient to whom the contractor is still responsible for providing essential services."

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Witter', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

39 Victoria Street, London SW10 0EH
Date: 15th July 2025

Lucy Witter
Member of the Senior Civil Service
Department of Health and Social Care