



The Belfast Gazette

Published by Authority

Registered as a Newspaper

FRIDAY 7 JUNE 1996

State Intelligence

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH MEDICINES ACT 1968

Amendments to the European Pharmacopoeia

The Health Ministers, that is to say the Secretaries of State concerned with health in England, in Wales and in Scotland respectively, and the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland, acting jointly, hereby declare under section 65(7) of the Medicines Act 1968 that on and after 1st July 1996, the revised versions of the monographs adopted by the European Pharmacopoeia Commission on 9th November 1995 and referred to in the Schedule hereto, are to have effect for the purposes of section 65 of the said Act in replacement for the monographs contained in the Second Edition of the European Pharmacopoeia, published under the direction of the Council of Europe (Partial Agreement) in accordance with the Convention on the Elaboration of a European Pharmacopoeia.

SCHEDULE

Monograph for Cellulose Acetate Phthalate (No. 314) to replace that published in the eighth fascicule, 1984,

Monograph for Cellulose (microcrystalline) (No. 316) to replace that published in the eighth fascicule, 1984,

Monograph for Cellulose (powdered) (No. 315) to replace that published in the eighth fascicule, 1984,

Monograph for Ethylcellulose (No. 822) to replace that published in the seventeenth fascicule, 1993,

Monograph for Hydroxyethylcellulose (No. 336) to replace that published in the eighth fascicule, 1984,

Monograph for Hydroxypropylmethylcellulose Phthalate (No. 347) to replace that entitled Methylhydroxypropylcellulose Phthalate published in the eighth fascicule, 1984.

The said revised monographs have been published in *Pharmeuropa*, Volume 8, Number 1, March 1996, which is available on subscription from the Technical Secretariat of the European Pharmacopoeia Commission, B.P. 907, F 67029 Strasbourg Cedex 1, France.

OFFICE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS OF THE LICENCE OF BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS (BT)

1. The Director General of Telecommunications (the "Director"), in accordance with section 12 (2) of the Telecommunications Act 1984 (the "Act"), hereby gives notice that he proposes to make modifications to the licence granted to British Telecommunications ("BT") on 22nd June 1984.
2. The principal modifications which the Director proposes to make and their effects are described in the Schedule below. The Director also proposes to make a number of minor and consequential modifications for the purposes of the principal proposed modifications.

Fair Trading Condition

3. The reasons for the proposed modifications are set out in some detail in OFTEL's consultative documents "Effective Competition: A Framework for Action" (July 1995), "Fair Trading in Telecommunications" (December 1995) and "Pricing of Telecommunications Services from 1997" (June 1996).
4. The telecommunications market is going through a period of fundamental change. Over the last twelve years it has moved from monopoly, through duopoly, to a market with about 150 Public Telecommunications Operator licensees and many other companies offering a range of different facilities and services. Regulation must evolve to meet the need of a changing market.
5. Regulation is an imperfect substitute for competitive market forces, which can be hindered rather than encouraged by the maintenance of heavy-handed, backward-looking rules. OFTEL needs to be able to take effective and speedy action against anti-competitive practices, while beginning the essential process of withdrawing from prescriptive rule-making and detailed price control.
6. BT remains a significant player in many telecommunications markets. BT's licence has many detailed, prescriptive licence conditions. The time is now right, however, for a move towards a regulatory approach which is lighter, in that it imposes fewer priority prescriptive rules, but firmer in that