



Treaty Series No. 122 (2000)

Exchange of Letters

constituting an Agreement to amend the
Agreement on Health Services
between the Government of the United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
and the Government of Australia

London, 29 May 1998

[The Agreement entered into force on 8 March 2000]

*Presented to Parliament
by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
by Command of Her Majesty
October 2000*

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**EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT
TO AMEND THE AGREEMENT ON HEALTH SERVICES
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA**

No. 1

The Minister for Health and Family Services for the Commonwealth of Australia to the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

London

29 May 1998

Sir

I have the honour to refer to the Agreement on Health Services between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to as "the Agreement") which was signed at London on 21 March 1986, and to recent discussions between the Department of Health of the United Kingdom and the Department of Health and Family Services of Australia concerning the need to amend the Agreement so as to extend the eligibility of persons temporarily in the territory of the other party and to make other minor amendments.

In accordance with the aforementioned discussions I have the honour to propose the following amendments to the Agreement:

1. Article 1 shall be amended—
 - (a) by altering the existing paragraph (1)(d) so as to delete the letter "(d)" and substitute the letter "(e)";
 - (b) by inserting after paragraph (1)(c) (the definition of "proof of residence") the following new paragraph:

"(d) "public patient" in relation to medical treatment in Australia means a person who is eligible for medical treatment as a public patient under the Health Insurance Act 1973;" and
 - (c) by altering the existing paragraph (1)(e) so as to delete the letter "(e)" and substitute the letter "(f)".
2. Article 2 shall be amended by deleting from paragraph (3)(b) the words "in relation to the territory of Australia, present in that territory for a period not exceeding six months" and substituting the words "in relation to the territory of Australia, lawfully present but not ordinarily resident in the territory."
3. Article 3 shall be amended by inserting after the phrase "condition requiring attention," the words "as a public patient within the public health care system,".

I have the honour to propose that if the foregoing is acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland this letter, together with your reply, shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments which shall enter into force on a date to be advised by the Government of Australia via the diplomatic channel.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

No. 2

The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to the Minister for Health and Family Services for the Commonwealth of Australia.

London

29 May 1998

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 29 May 1998, which reads as follows:

[As in No. 1]

I have the honour to confirm that the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, who therefore agree that your letter, together with this reply, shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments which shall enter into force on a date to be advised by the Government of Australia via the diplomatic channel.

Please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

