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## PRESS RELEASE

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## New Medical Registration Regulations published

The Government has published new Regulations that will govern the registration of doctors practicing in Gibraltar. This fulfils a Government manifesto commitment to provide for all doctors to be registered by the General Medical Council (GMC) in the UK.

The new procedures follow extensive discussions with private and public sector doctors in Gibraltar as well as with the UK Department of Health and the GMC itself.

During the course of next year the rules will be enacted and only doctors who are both registered and licensed to practice by the GMC will be able to register under the Medical Registration board in Gibraltar.

This process has required the enactment of further rules – already in place – to provide for Responsible Officers who will oversee the licensing of doctors in Gibraltar. It also means that, as required by the GMC, all doctors will have to undergo Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and regular appraisals to a standard acceptable to the GMC in order to be re-validated. This process has already commenced in the Gibraltar Health Authority, with the support of the prestigious Health Education Wessex Training Board.

Commenting on the new procedures, Minister for Health Dr John Cortes said: "There is no doubt in my mind that the new rules, apart from safeguarding doctors' registration and licences to practice, will improve standards of practice and clinical governance throughout medical practice in Gibraltar, in both the public and private sectors. We will have additional comfort in knowing that all our doctors will be validated by the greatly respected General Medical Council. I am hugely grateful to the GMC for their support in achieving this for Gibraltar."