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Exempt persons with cystic fibrosis from charges for drugs, medicines, appliances and pharmaceutical services.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Amendment of the National Health Service Act 1977

- (1) The National Health Service Act 1977 (c. 49) is amended as follows.
- (2) In section 77(4) (application of relevant provisions of Schedule 12), for the words “paragraphs 1 and 4”, substitute the words “paragraphs 1, 1A and 4”.
- (3) In Schedule 12 (additional provisions as to regulations for the making and recovery of charges), after paragraph 1, insert—
 - “1A (1) No charge shall be made under section 77(1) above in relation to the supply of drugs, medicines, appliances and pharmaceutical services referred to in that subsection in respect of the supply of any drug, medicine or appliance for a person with a valid exemption certificate issued by the Secretary of State on the ground that he is suffering from cystic fibrosis. 10
 - (2) A valid exemption certificate for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) above shall be in such form as the Secretary of State may by regulations prescribe.” 15

2 Amendment of the English charging regulations

- (1) The National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Regulations 2000 (S.I. 2000/620) are amended as follows.
- (2) In Article 7(1)(e)(ii) (disorders in respect of which no charge shall be payable by persons with a valid exemption certificate), at the beginning of the list of disorders, insert—

“cystic fibrosis”.

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3 Amendment of the Welsh charging regulations

- (1) The National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Wales) Regulations 2001 (S.I. 2001/1358) are amended as follows.
- (2) In Article 8(1)(d)(ii) (disorders in respect of which no charge shall be payable by persons with a valid exemption certificate), at the beginning of the list of disorders, insert—
“cystic fibrosis”. 5

4 Short title, commencement and extent

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Cystic Fibrosis (Exemption from Prescription Charges) Act 2005. 10
- (2) Section 1 shall come into force on such day as the Secretary of State may by order appoint.
- (3) The Secretary of State shall consult the National Assembly for Wales before making an order under subsection (2).
- (4) Section 2 shall come into force on 1 April 2006. 15
- (5) Section 3 shall come into force on such day as the National Assembly for Wales may by order appoint.
- (6) The power to make orders under this section is exercisable by statutory instrument.
- (7) This Act extends to England and Wales only. 20

Cystic Fibrosis (Exemption from Prescription Charges) Bill

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To exempt persons with cystic fibrosis from charges for drugs, medicines, appliances and pharmaceutical services.

*Presented by Mr Archie Norman
supported by
Bob Russell.*

*Ordered, by The House of Commons,
to be printed, 25th January 2005.*

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LONDON – THE STATIONERY OFFICE LIMITED
Printed in the United Kingdom by
The Stationery Office Limited
£x.xx