



# THE SCOTTISH OFFICE

Department of Health

**FOR  
REFERENCE ONLY**

COMMON SERVICES AGENCY	
RECEIVED 27 FEB 1997	
FILE No	
REFERRED TO <i>ds 27/2</i>	ACTION TAKEN

**NHS Circular:  
MEL(1997)7**

NHS Management Executive  
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21 February 1997

Dear Colleague

## SUPPORTING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE NHS - INVITATION TO BID

### Summary

1. A copy of "The New Funding System" for R&D was sent to you under cover of Dr Spaul's letter of 21 November 1996 outlining the new system being introduced for support funding of R&D in the Scottish Health Service. This MEL covers the issue of two documents which provide information on how the new R&D funding system for NHS Providers will be run from 1 April 1998 and a third document inviting NHS Providers to bid for R&D support funding for the financial year 1998/99 onwards.

1.1 The first document, "Strategic Framework for the Use of the Scottish Health Service R&D Support Fund" describes the goal and purpose of the Scottish Health Service R&D Support Fund. It sets out the principles that will govern the general allocation of funding from this source.

1.2 The second document, "R&D Support Funding for NHS Providers; an Introduction" provides a summary of the operation of a new funding system for allocating funding to NHS Providers to meet the costs they incur in pursuing or hosting R&D.

1.3 The third document, "R&D Support Funding for NHS Providers from 1998/99: Invitation to Bid" invites NHS Providers to bid for R&D Support Funding for the financial year 1998/99 onwards. It includes details of what can be included and how to make a bid. - not attached.

### Action

2. NHS Providers wishing to bid for R&D Support Funding from 1998/99 onwards should submit an Expression of Interest to the Chief Scientist Office by 30 April 1997. They will then have until 29 August 1997 to make a final bid. Details are set out in the Invitation

### Addressees:

#### For action:

NHS Trust Chief Executives  
General Managers, Health  
Boards

#### For information and without Invitation to Bid document:

General Manager, Common  
Services Agency  
General Manager, Health  
Education Board for Scotland  
General Manager, State  
Hospitals Board for Scotland  
Executive Director, SCPMDE

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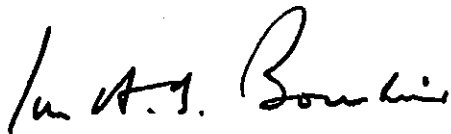
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to Bid. Submission of an Expression of Interest is mandatory if a Provider intends to make a final bid. Failure to do so will debar the Provider from the application process.

General Managers of Health Boards are requested to circulate this MEL to GPs; GDPs; Community Pharmacists and Optometrists within their area and to have a set of the documents placed in Board Libraries.

Chief Executives of Trusts are requested to have a set of documents placed in Trust Libraries. Copies of this MEL and accompanying documents have also gone to Trust R&D Lead Officers.

Yours sincerely



**PROFESSOR IAN A D BOUCHIER**  
**Chief Scientist**