## From the Deputy Chief Medical Officer **Dr Elizabeth Mitchell**

HSS (MD) 29/2010



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AN ROINN

Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí

MÄNNYSTRIE O

Poustie, Resydènter Heisin an Fowk Siccar

Chief Executives, Health & Social Care Trusts Medical Directors, HSC Trusts (for onward dissemination to all Trust Doctors) Directors of Nursing, HSC Trusts (for onward dissemination to all Trust Midwives and Nurses) distribution to Board employed doctors)

All General Practitioners Chief Executive, Health & Social Care Board (for Chief Executive, Public Health Agency Chief Executive, Business Services Organisation

Director of Public Health, Public Health Agency (for distribution to PHA employed doctors) Director of Nursing, Public Health Agency (for distribution to PHA employed Midwives and Nurses)

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Your Ref:

Our Ref: HSS MD 29/2010 27 July 2010 Date:

Dear Colleague

## **GUIDANCE ON THE TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the withdrawal of the Department's interim Guidance on the Termination of Pregnancy published in February 2010.

As you will be aware, this interim Guidance was published in February 2010 and omitted sections on conscientious objection and counselling following a Judicial Review decision in November 2009.

The Department has now redrafted the sections on counselling and conscientious objection and has issued revised Guidance for consultation. You will receive notice of this in separate correspondence. Final Guidance on the Termination of Pregnancy: The Law and Clinical Practice in Northern Ireland will be published by the Department in due course.

Yours sincerely

Elzabeth Mitchell

DR ELIZABETH MITCHELL **Deputy Chief Medical Officer** 



cc Chief Executive, Patient and Client Council

Dr P McGarry, Royal College Psychiatrists

Dr J Johnston, Royal College of General Practitioners

Dr P Fogarty, Royal College Obstetrics & Gynaecology

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