

## Diver Medical Examinations – Mutual Recognition Agreements

As members will be aware, IMCA is not involved in any approval of doctors to carry out annual diving medical examinations. However, we are aware that certain regulatory authorities have in place systems for approving such doctors.

It has recently been brought to our attention that mutual recognition agreements have been drawn up between some countries regarding the recognition of approved doctors and recognition of diving medical certificates issued by such doctors.

Attached are copies of the agreements between:

- 1 the UK Health and Safety Executive and the Health And Safety Authority - Republic of Ireland
- 2 the UK Health and Safety Executive and the States Supervision of Mines, the Netherlands
- 3 the UK Health and Safety Executive and the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate (now the PSA) and the Norwegian Board of Health.

**Mutual recognition agreement of doctors approved to carry out diving medical examinations and diving medical testing arrangements.**

**Between           The United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive**

**And                The Health and Safety Authority Republic of Ireland**

1. Doctors approved under UK diving regulations to carry out diving medical examinations will automatically be recognised under Irish regulations.
2. Doctors approved under Irish regulations to carry out diving medical examinations will automatically be recognised under UK diving regulations.
3. Medical certificates issued by doctors approved under UK regulations to carry out diving medical examinations will automatically be recognised under Irish regulations for divers intending to work in the Irish sector.
4. Medical certificates issued by doctors approved under Irish regulations to carry out diving medical examinations will automatically be recognised under UK regulations for divers intending to work in the UK sector.
5. The agreement is subject to the following conditions:
  - a       this recognition agreement revokes any previous mutual recognition agreement;
  - b       the arrangements for authorising doctors shall not deviate from that submitted to form the basis of this agreement, unless agreed in writing between the two national authorities;
  - c       the medical testing arrangements shall not deviate from that submitted to form the basis of this agreement, unless agreed between the two national authorities;
  - d       each national authority shall provide to the other details of any other countries or national authorities with which they plan to enter into a mutual recognition agreement;
  - e       this arrangement shall continue until revoked by either side in writing.

In witness whereof this agreement has been entered into on this date:

22-6-2006

Signed by  for and on behalf of the  
United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive

**Chris Sherman, Chief Inspector of Diving, the United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive.**

Signed by  for and on behalf of the  
Health and Safety Authority, Republic of Ireland

**Kieran Sludds, Occupational Health Manager, the Republic of Ireland Health and Safety Authority.**

**Mutual recognition agreement of doctors approved to carry out diving medical examinations and diving medical testing arrangements.**

**Between            The United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive**

**And The State Supervision of Mines, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Netherlands**

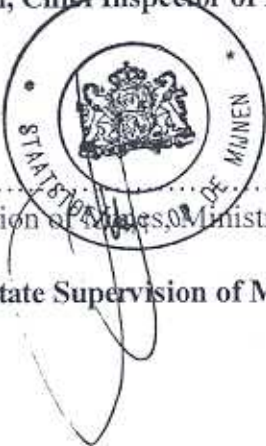
1. Doctors approved under UK diving regulations to carry out diving medical examinations will automatically be recognised under Dutch regulations.
2. Doctors approved under Dutch regulations to carry out diving medical examinations will automatically be recognised under UK diving regulations.
3. Medical certificates issued by doctors approved under UK regulations to carry out diving medical examinations will automatically be recognised under Dutch regulations for divers intending to work in the Dutch sector.
4. Medical certificates issued by doctors approved under Dutch regulations to carry out diving medical examinations will automatically be recognised under UK regulations for divers intending to work in the UK sector.
5. The agreement is subject to the following conditions:
  - a this recognition agreement revokes any previous mutual recognition agreement;
  - b the arrangements for authorising doctors shall not deviate from that submitted to form the basis of this agreement, unless agreed in writing between the two national authorities;
  - c the medical testing arrangements shall not deviate from that submitted to form the basis of this agreement, unless agreed between the two national authorities;
  - d each national authority shall provide to the other details of any other countries or national authorities with which they plan to enter into a mutual recognition agreement;
  - e this arrangement shall continue until revoked by either side in writing.

In witness whereof this agreement has been entered into on this date:

23 October 2006

Signed by  for and on behalf of the  
United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive

**Chris Sherman, Chief Inspector of Diving, the United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive.**

Signed by  for and on behalf of  
State Supervision of Mines, Ministry of Economic Affairs, The Netherlands.

**Jan de Jong, State Supervision of Mines, Ministry of Economic Affairs, The Netherlands.**



## Mutual recognition agreement of doctors approved to carry out diving medical examinations and diving medical testing arrangements

**Between**            The United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive

**And**                 The Norwegian Petroleum Directorate and the Norwegian Board of Health

1. Doctors approved under UK diving regulations to carry out diving medical examinations will automatically be recognised under Norwegian regulations.
2. Doctors approved under Norwegian regulations to carry out diving medical examinations will automatically be recognised under UK diving regulations.
3. Medical certificates issued by doctors approved under UK regulations to carry out diving medical examinations will automatically be recognised under Norwegian regulations for divers intending to work in the Norwegian sector.
4. Medical certificates issued by doctors approved under Norwegian regulations to carry out diving medical examinations will automatically be recognised under UK diving regulations for divers intending to work in the UK.
5. The agreement is subject to the following conditions:
  - a this recognition agreement revokes any previous agreement;
  - b the arrangements for authorising doctors shall not deviate from that submitted previously unless agreed between the two national authorities;
  - c the medical testing arrangements shall not deviate from that submitted previously unless agreed between the two national authorities;
  - d each national authority shall be required to provide details of any other countries with which they plan to enter into a mutual recognition agreement;
  - e this arrangement shall continue until revoked by either side in writing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF this AGREEMENT has been entered into on this date

..... 26<sup>th</sup> September 1996 .....

Signed by Rosemary Banner ..... for and on behalf of  
the United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive

**Rosemary Banner**

**Head of Diving Policy, the United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive**

Signed by M. Ognedal ..... for and on behalf of  
the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate

**Magne Ognedal**

**Director of Safety of the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate**

Signed by Jan Fredrik Andresen ..... for and on behalf of  
the Norwegian Board of Health

**Jan Fredrik Andresen**

**Acting Director of the Department of the Norwegian Board of Health**