

Schedule 5: Assisting public bodies and other persons

Subject Matter	Brief summary of the privilege or duty	Legislative Provision
Emergency Protection Order	A court granting an Emergency Protection Order over a child may direct that a Registered Medical Practitioner, registered nurse or registered midwife accompany the applicant when exercising any of the powers under the order. In addition, a court granting an application for a warrant in relation to an Emergency Protection Order may direct that the constable exercising the warrant be accompanied by a Registered Medical Practitioner, registered nurse or registered midwife.	Children Act 1989 (Sections 45 and 48)
Coal Mines	Every employer must ensure that his employees who are, or are liable to be, exposed to inhalable dust are placed under health surveillance by a Registered Medical Practitioner, unless the exposure is insignificant.	Coal Mines (Control of Inhalable Dust) Regulations 2007 (SI2007/1894)
Intimate searches and X-rays and ultrasound scans	The power of public authorities to require a person to be the subject of an intimate search, x-ray or ultrasound scan often includes the caveat that the search or scan must be performed by a Registered Medical Practitioner or a registered nurse.	Customs and Excise Management 1979 (Section 164) Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Sections 55 and 55A) Criminal Law (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 1995
Notice requiring the examination of school pupils	In certain circumstances, the Secretary of State may serve notice on a parent requiring a pupil to present for examination by a Registered Medical Practitioner.	Education Act 1996 (Section 506)
Examination of the person and clothing of a school pupil	A local education authority may direct a medical officer to have the person and clothing of a pupil in attendance at a relevant school examined if the examination is in the interests of cleanliness. If the examination is of a girl it shall not be performed by a man unless he is a Registered Medical Practitioner. Similarly, a girl may only be cleansed by a	Education Act 1996 (Sections 521 and 523)

	woman authorised by the authority or a Registered Medical Practitioner.	
Scientific tests in civil proceedings	At the direction of the court, a Registered Medical Practitioner or a registered nurse or biomedical student under the supervision of a Registered Medical Practitioner may take blood samples to ascertain paternity.	Family Law Reform Act 1969 (Section 22) Blood Test (Evidence of Paternity) Regulations 1971 (SI 1971/1861) Magistrates Courts (Blood Tests) Rules 1971 (SI 1971/1991)
Examining individuals receiving health and adult social care	The Care Quality Commission can authorise a Registered Medical Practitioner or a registered nurse to examine individuals receiving health and adult social care.	Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Section 63)
Warrant to search and remove patients	A constable exercising a warrant granted for the search and removal, with a view to making an application for a hospital order, of a patient suffering from a mental disorder where there is reasonable cause to suspect they are being ill-treated or is unable to care for myself and lives alone, must be accompanied by an approved mental health professional and a Registered Medical Practitioner.	Mental Health Act 1983 (Section 135)
Young persons employed in mines	The owner of a mine must make arrangements for every young person employed to work in a mine to be examined by a registered Medical Practitioner when first employed and thereafter examined annually.	Mines (Medical Examinations) Regulations 1964 (SI 1964/209)
Inspection of children at school	In certain circumstances a Registered Medical Practitioner may inspect children who are provided with accommodation by a relevant school or college.	National Care Standards Commission (Inspection of Schools and Colleges) Regulations 2002 (SI 2002/552) Inspection of Boarding Schools and Colleges (Powers and Fees) (Wales) Regulations 2002 (SI 2002/3161)
Removal of a person in need of care and attention	An application to remove a person in need of care and attention to suitable premises may be made without notice if certified as necessary to remove without delay by the medical officer of health or another Registered Medical Practitioner.	National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951 (Section 1)

Taking intimate samples	The power of the police to take intimate samples from an individual includes the caveat that such a sample must be taken by a Registered Medical Practitioner or a registered health care professional, save in relation to urine samples.	Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (Section 62)
Notifiable diseases or food poisoning	If a Registered Medical Practitioner becomes aware, or suspects that a patient whom he is attending within the district of a local authority is suffering from a notifiable disease (including cholera, smallpox) or food poisoning he must notify the local authority forthwith unless he has reasonable grounds for believing that some other Registered Medical Practitioner has complied with the requirement. A Justice of the Peace may order that a person be medically examined by a Registered Medical Practitioner where satisfied by a written certificate issued by a Registered Medical Practitioner of his concern that a person is suffering from a notifiable disease. Further, if someone dies in hospital of a notifiable disease the local authority or a Registered Medical Practitioner may certify that it is desirable for the body not to be removed save for the purpose of being taken to a mortuary and forthwith being buried or cremated, and it shall therefore not be lawful for a person to remove the body.	Public Health (Control of Diseases) Act 1984 (Sections 11, 35 and 43)
Taking intimate samples	Under the Terrorism Act, an intimate sample other than a sample of urine or a dental impression may be taken only by a Registered Medical Practitioner acting on the authority of a constable.	Terrorism Act 2000 (Schedule 8)