

4th June 2002

Director of Human Resources, Each Health Board

*Personnel Manager, Each Voluntary Hospital
Irish Blood Transfusion Service*

Re: Medical Scientists

I refer to my letter of 22nd March 2002, and subsequent correspondence from the Department of Health and Children regarding implementation of revised salary and grading structure for Medical Scientists.

At a recent meeting with representatives of the M.L.S.A. a number of matters were raised and the following approach agreed.

Removal of Bar point on Medical Laboratory Technician Scale

My letter of 22nd March referred to the removal of the existing Bar point "provided that staff to whom it applies agree to participate and successfully complete at least one cycle of a continual professional development programme, such as P.E.P. (professional enhancement programme)". Having regard to the availability and length of time required to successfully complete such programmes, it has been agreed that the bar point may be removed in such cases ;

where an individual has agreed to participate in and been registered for a continual professional development programme. Subject to satisfactory participation, certified by the appropriate Line Manager, such individuals may proceed beyond the bar point by way of annual increment.

In a small number of cases, where those held at the bar point have already participated in such continual professional development programme, they may also progress along the scale by way of annual increment.

It had already been agreed that in the case of such staff aged 55 or over on 1st April 2002, the proviso regarding completion of such professional development programme would be waived. In such cases individuals may proceed on the scale by way of annual increment.

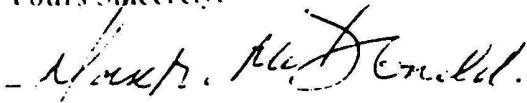
The above arrangement applies at Medical Scientist (basic grade) level. There is no change in the requirement to possess the Fellowship of the Academy of Medical

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Laboratory Sciences to progress beyond the 5th Point of the Senior Medical Scientist scale

Concerns were expressed by the M.L.S.A representatives regarding delay in implementation of the salary adjustments in some areas. The Department of Health and Children indicated that it was satisfied that resources were available to implement the arrangements

Yours Sincerely,



Martin McDonald
Project Manager