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NHS Board Chief Executives

Copy: NHS Board Chairs

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Dear Colleagues

### **EU CITIZENS WORKING IN NHS SCOTLAND**

The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport, and the Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe, have recently hosted a number of events to hear first-hand from EU staff. I have also met a wide range of staff from different backgrounds, and it is clear from these events and discussions that a number of colleagues are concerned about what Brexit will mean for them and their families.

As Chief Executive of NHS Scotland I want to reiterate how much I value the contribution of every member of staff, regardless of their nationality. Colleagues from across the EU, and beyond, bring valuable experience and skills that strengthen and improve the work of the Health Service, and benefit the patients and communities we serve.

The Cabinet Secretary has been clear that the Scottish Government's priority is to ensure that individuals' rights and place in Scotland are protected, as well as offering information and assistance. Anyone with concerns about citizenship and residency can find information on the Scottish Government website. This includes signposting to other relevant guidance, and the link is at the bottom of this letter. I am copying this to your Board Chairs, and you should be free to share it widely as part of your communication with staff on these issues.

Yours sincerely

**Paul Gray**

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/International/Europe/eu-referendum/FreeMovementCitizensRights>