

# Medical Weighing Solutions

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“Weighing Up the Risk”

Patients are weighed to calculate medication dosage, diagnose illness, monitor treatment and assess nutritional status. Using “accurate” weighing perform a critical role in this process.

## The Law : Medical Weighing

Medical weighing equipment is covered in Schedule 3 of the Non Automatic Weighing Instrument regulations (NAWI Directive): it is equipment used for the ‘determination of mass in the practice of medicine for weighing patients for the purpose of monitoring, diagnosis and medical treatment.’ These regulations make it a legal requirement to use equipment that is appropriately accurate.

## Purchasing The Right Equipment **M**

To comply with legal requirements you cannot use just any set of scales. Scales used in the above processes must be Class III. These can be identified by a Green M sticker (see above)

**These products are available from us through the NHS Supply Chain, NPC Supply Codes :**  
TSS004, TSS005, TSS006, TSS007, TSS008, TSS009, TSS010, TSS011, TSS012, TSS013, TSS014, TSS015,

## Equipment In Use

It is a common mis-conception that because a weighing result is displayed on an electronic display (or mechanical) it must be correct. Unfortunately this is not always the case. Weighing scales are not perfect measuring instruments, they have the potential to stop weighing accurately for a variety of reasons. Also when a scale starts weighing inaccurately there is no visual warning to tell you that this is happening.

This also applies to legally approved Green **M** sticker scales described. Therefore to ensure you are getting correct weighing results they must be checked on a regular basis against a known and trusted reference

## Using Equipment Correctly

The incorrect use of medical scales can also result in inaccurate weighing results. Personnel who are weighing patients should be trained in and understand how to weigh correctly. For example the importance of weighing from a zero point, using the scale on a correct surface etc.

## Assessment Service

Knowing if your medical scales comply is difficult if you do not have the required understanding of the legislation and weighing technology. For a nominal charge we will carry out a survey of your scales and provide a complete inventory and short report on condition and suitability. If you take out a calibration agreement with us this charge will be refunded against the first visit.



A “UKAS Accredited Calibration Laboratory” for :

- Weighing
- Pipettes
- Weight Calibration



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For more info visit [www.euroinst.co.uk](http://www.euroinst.co.uk)

# About European Instruments

European Instruments have been specialist weighing service providers since 1972. Our particular area of expertise is meeting the requirements of those customers who have regulated weighing requirements, for example in the pharmaceutical and medical sectors, where there is a requirement to comply with regulatory or legal requirements.

## Competency

European Instruments are accredited to the following standards

- ISO 9001:2008 ~ 1009988
- UKAS (ISO 17025) ~ 0438

As such we have documented procedures covering the servicing work we would undertake at your premises. We are audited by the British Standards Institute and more importantly UKAS with regard to the relevant standard. UKAS is the appointed accreditation authority in the UK and audit us specifically on our technical capability to carry out UKAS calibrations on weighing equipment.

## Traceability & Standards

The importance of using known and trusted references when calibrating or correcting an instrument was discussed earlier. You must have the confidence that your service provider is using the correct reference weights to meet the required standard.

All weights (reference standards) used by European Instruments engineers are :

- Traceable back to National and International Standards
- Hold current UKAS certificates
- Hold complete calibration history since the day they were first used. We have calibration history on some weights dating back over 20 years
- Documented procedures for the their control and use of the reference standards

Failure to follow such strict procedures with regard to the use of the reference standards may invalidate a calibration carried out by a service provider.

# Service Levels

***The primary purpose of our service is to check the weighing equipment you have in use meets legal weighing requirements for medical weighing applications and provide documentation accordingly***

We have also taken into account that customers have differing requirements so we have split our service into elements so you can choose what areas are relevant to you.

## Calibration Check

A qualified engineer will visit your premises and carry out the following service.

- Determine if the scale in use meets legal weighing requirements
- Carry out an inspection of the scale to ensure it is correct working order
- Carry out an assessment of the weighing environment and determine if it is suitable
- Perform a calibration and confirm it is accurate and within legal tolerance
- Provide electronic and hard copy certificate of calibration

## Inventory Management

European Instruments will maintain the inventory of your medical scales within our own system

- Detailing each instrument by make, model, serial number and location in the hospital
- Calibration interval – Our system records how often an instrument should be checked and we remind you
- Complete calibration and check history on a particular scale

Inventory management is a peace of mind solution. Should you find yourself facing potential litigation and a weighing scale has been implicated, we can supply you with complete calibration history and copy certification. This demonstrates due diligence on your part.

## Training

We can provide user training on how to correctly use a weighing scale. This can be carried out as short “on the job” training sessions to individuals or small groups at the time of the service visit. Or we can arrange “away day” weighing courses for larger groups.

## New Equipment Purchases

We supply all leading makes of class III medical scales. Setting up a purchasing arrangement with us will

- Ensure you are purchasing the correct type of equipment with the necessary approvals
- All new equipment will be issued with a certificate of conformance to relevant legal requirements. This is then emailed to the department responsible for maintaining your inventory along with the location in the organisation
- Discount rates will be agreed for equipment purchases
- Available through the NHS supply chain