STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2004 No. 92

HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES

Optical Charges and Payments and General Ophthalmic Services (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004

Made - - - -	*8th March 2004*
Coming into operation –	
Except for regulations 2 and 6	*1st April 2004*
Regulations 2 and 6	*6th April 2004*

The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety(**1**) in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 62, 98, 106 and 107(6) of, and Schedule 15 to, the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(**2**) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel, and after consultation with such organisations as appeared to the Department to be representative of medical practitioners practising as ophthalmic medical practitioners, and ophthalmic opticians, as required by Article 62(3) of the said Order, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Optical Charges and Payments and General Ophthalmic Services (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 and shall come into operation –

(a) except for regulations 2 and 6 on 1st April 2004; and

(b) regulations 2 and 6 on 6th April 2004.

(2) In these Regulations –

"the Optical Regulations" means the Health and Personal Social Services (Optical Charges and Payments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997(**3**);

(**1**) *See*S.I. 1999/283 (N.I. 1) Article 3(6)

(**2**) S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14) as amended by Article 3(2) of, and paragraph 3 of Schedule 1 to, the Health and Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1984 (S.I. 1984/1158 (N.I. 8)); paragraphs 4 and 5 of Article 8 of the Health and Medicines (Northern Ireland) Order 1988 (S.I. 1988/2249 (N.I. 24)); Article 34 of, and Part II of Schedule 5 to, the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1991 (S.I. 1991/194 (N.I. 1)) there are other amendments which are not relevant

(**3**) S.R. 1997 No. 191; relevant amending Regulations are S.R. 1999 Nos. 111 and 394, S.R. 2000 No. 51, S.R. 2001 No. 133, S.R. 2002 No. 85 and S.R. 2003 Nos. 176 and 424

"the Ophthalmic Regulations" means the Health and Personal Social Services (General Ophthalmic Services) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1986(**4**).

PART I

AMENDMENTS OF OPTICAL REGULATIONS

Amendment of regulation 8 of the Optical Regulations

2. In regulation 8(3)(k)(ii)(**5**) of the Optical Regulations (eligibility – supply of optical appliances) for "£14,200" there shall be substituted "£14,600".

Amendment of regulation 19 of the Optical Regulations

3. In regulation 19 of the Optical Regulations (redemption value of voucher for replacement or repair) –

(a) in paragraph (1)(b) for "£45·70" there shall be substituted "£46·80"; and

(b) in paragraph (3) for "£11·80" there shall be substituted "£12·10".

Amendment of the Schedules to the Optical Regulations

4.—(1) In Schedule 1 to the Optical Regulations (voucher letter codes and face values – supply and replacement)(**6**), in column 3 (face value of voucher), for each amount specified in column 1 of the Table below (old amount) there shall be substituted the amount specified in relation to it in column 2 of that Table (new amount).

TABLE

Column 1 *Old amount*	Column 2 *New amount*
£31·30	£32·10
£47·60	£48·80
£64·80	£71·30
£146·30	£161·00
£54·00	£55·40
£68·70	£70·40
£83·00	£91·30
£160·90	£177·00
£160·90	£164·90
£45·70	£46·80

(**4**) S.R. 1986 No. 163; relevant amending Regulations are S.R. 1989 No. 113, S.R. 1995 No. 115, S.R. 1996 No. 416, S.R. 1999 Nos. 112 and 394, S.R. 2001 No. 339, S.R. 2002 No. 85 and S.R. 2003 Nos. 176 and 424

(**5**) Regulation 8(3)(k)(ii) was added by S.R. 2003 No. 176

(**6**) Schedule 1 is substituted by the Schedule to S.R. 1999 No. 111 and amended by S.R. 2003 No. 176

(2) In Schedule 2 to the principal Regulations (prisms, tints, photochromic lenses, small and special glasses and complex appliances) –

(a) in paragraph 1(1)(a) (prism – single vision lens) for "£10·10" there shall be substituted "£10·40";

(b) in paragraph 1(1)(b) (prism – other lens) for "£12·20" there shall be substituted "£12·50";

(c) in paragraph 1(1)(c) (single vision tinted lens) for "£3·40" there shall be substituted "£3·50";

(d) in paragraph 1(1)(d) (other tinted lens) for "£3·90" there shall be substituted "£4·00";

(e) in paragraph 1(1)(e) (small glasses) –

(i) in sub-head (i) for "£51·50" there shall be substituted "£52·80";

(ii) in sub-head (ii) for "£45·70" there shall be substituted "£46·80"; and

(iii) in sub-head (iii) for "£24·80" there shall be substituted "£25·40";

(f) in paragraph 1(1)(g) (specially manufactured frames) for "£51·50" there shall be substituted "£52·80";

(g) in paragraph 2(a) (minimum complex appliance payment – single vision lenses) for "£11·00" there shall be substituted "£12·10"; and

(h) in paragraph 2(b) (minimum complex appliance payment – other cases) for "£27·70" there shall be substituted "£30·50".

(3) For Schedule 3 to the Optical Regulations (voucher values – repair)(**7**), there shall be substituted the Schedule 3 set out in the Schedule.

Application of Regulations 3 and 4

5. The amendments made in regulations 3 and 4 apply only in relation to a voucher accepted or used pursuant to regulation 12 or regulation 17 of the Optical Regulations on or after 1st April 2004.

PART II

AMENDMENTS OF OPHTHALMIC REGULATIONS

Amendment of regulation 15 of the Ophthalmic Regulations

6. In Regulation 15(2)(k)(ii) of the Ophthalmic Regulations (sight tests – eligibility)(**8**) for "£14,200" there shall be substituted "£14,600".

(**7**) Schedule 3 is substituted by the Schedule to S.R. 2003 No. 176

(**8**) Regulation 15 was substituted by S.R. 1989 No. 113 and amended by S.R. 1995 No. 115, S.R. 1996 No. 416, S.R. 1999 Nos. 112 and 394, S.R. 2001 No. 339, S.R. 2002 No. 85 and S.R. 2003 Nos. 176 and 424