STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2018 No. 211

HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES

The Optical Charges and Payments (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2018

Made - - - - 13th December 2018

Coming into operation 3rd January 2019

The Department of Health(**1**) makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 62, 98, 106 and 107(6) of, and Schedule 15 to, the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(**2**), with the approval of the Department of Finance.

In accordance with Article 62(3) of that Order it has consulted with such organisations as appear to it to be representative of medical practitioners practising as ophthalmic medical practitioners and ophthalmic opticians.

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Optical Charges and Payments (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2018 and shall come into operation on 3rd January 2019.

(2) In these Regulations "the principal Regulations" means the Health and Personal Social Services (Optical Charges and Payments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997(**3**).

Amendment of regulation 19 of the principal Regulations

2.—(1) In regulation 19 of the principal Regulations (redemption value of voucher for replacement or repair)—

(a) in paragraph (1)(b) for "£57.00" substitute "£57.60"; and

(b) in paragraph (3) for "£14.80" substitute "£14.90".

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

(**2**) S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14) as amended by Articles 3 and 17 of, and Schedules 1 and 6 to, the Health and Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1984 (S.I. 1984/1158 (N.I. 8)); Article 14(2) of the Social Security (Northern Ireland) Order 1988 (S.I. 1998/594 (N.I. 1)); 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. 1998 No. 86; S.R. 1999 Nos.111 and 394, S.R. 2000 No. 51, S.R. 2001 No. 133, S.R. 2002 No. 85, S.R. 2003 Nos. 176 and 424, S.R. 2004 Nos. 92, 113, 162 and 188, S.R. 2005 No. 71, S.R. 2006 No. 106, S.R. 2007 No. 141, S.R. 2008 No. 128, 2009 c. 1, S.R. 2009 No. 153, S.R. 2012 No. 259, S.R. 2013 No. 204, S.R. 2014 No.154, S.R. 2015 No. 266 and S.R. 2016 No. 335

Amendments of the Schedules to the principal Regulations

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

Table

Column 1 *Old Amount*	*Column 2* *New Amount*
£39.10	£39.50
£59.30	£59.90
£86.90	£87.80
£196.00	£198.00
£67.50	£68.20
£85.60	£86.50
£111.20	£112.30
£215.50	£217.70
£200.80	£202.80

(2) In Schedule 2(**5**) 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 "£12.60" substitute "£12.70";

(b) in paragraph 1(1)(b) (prism – other lens) for "£15.40" substitute "£15.60";

(c) in paragraph 1(1)(c) (single vision tinted lens) for "£4.40" substitute "£4.50";

(d) in paragraph 1(1)(d) (other tinted lens) for "£4.90" substitute "£5.00";

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

(i) in sub-head (i) for "£64.20" substitute "£64.80";

(ii) in sub-head (ii) for "£57.00" substitute "£57.60";

(iii) in sub-head (iii) for "£30.80" substitute "£31.10";

(f) for paragraph 1(1)(g) (specially manufactured frames) substitute —

"(g) where the voucher is issued by an ophthalmic medical practitioner, optician or a HSC Trust, the frame of which is certified by the ophthalmic medical practitioner, optician or a HSC Trust as being required to be specifically manufactured on account of the patient's facial characteristics;

(i) by £64.85 in the case of the supply or replacement of the glasses or repair of the whole frame;

(ii) by £57.55 in the case of repair of the front of the frame; and

(iii) by £31.10 in the case of repair of a side frame.;"

(**4**) Schedule 1 was substituted by the Schedule to S.R. 1999 No. 111, and last amended by S.R. 2016 No. 335

(**5**) Schedule 2 was last amended by regulation 3(1) of S.R. 2016 No. 335