1988 No. 80

HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES

Payments for Optical Appliances (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1988

Made	*16th March 1988*
Coming into operation . .	*1st April 1988*

The Department of Health and Social Services, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 62(2), 98 and 106 of and Schedule 15 to, the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(**a**) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel(**b**) 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 Payments for Optical Appliances (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1988 and shall come into operation on 1st April 1988.

(2) In these regulations, "the principal regulations" means the Payments for Optical Appliances Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1986(**c**).

Amendment of the principal regulations

2.—(1) In regulation 1 of the principal regulations—

(*a*) in paragraph (2) (interpretation) in the definition of "face value" the words "for a prism or a tint" are omitted;

(*b*) in paragraph (3) (interpretation of Part I of Schedule 1) after sub-paragraph (*a*) there is inserted the following sub-paragraph:—

"(*aa*) where an optical appliance has a bifocal lens, the power of the lens shall be determined according to the power of that segment of the lens designed to correct a defect in distance sight; and".

(2) In regulation 3 of the principal regulations (issue of vouchers in connection with general ophthalmic services), in paragraph (2), there is added at the end "on the same occasion as he issues the prescription in accordance with paragraph 10(3) of Schedule 1 to the Ophthalmic Services Regulations.".

(3) In regulation 5 of the principal regulations (use of voucher), after paragraph (2) there is inserted the following paragraph:—

(a) S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14). As amended by S.I. 1984/1158 (N.I. 8)
(b) Formerly Department of Finance: *see* S.I. 1982/338 (N.I. 6) Art. 3
(c) S.R. 1986 No. 164

"(2A) A voucher relating to glasses may be accepted in connection with the supply of contact lenses.".

(4) For each amount specified in column 2 of Schedule 1, where it appears in column 3 in Part I of Schedule 1 to the principal regulations in relation to the letter code specified in column 1 of Schedule 1, there is substituted the amount specified in column 3 of the Schedule.

(5) For Part II of Schedule 1 to the principal regulations there is substituted the Part II set out in Schedule 2.

Application of regulations

3.—(1) Any change in the value of a voucher effected by—

(*a*) regulation 2(4) of, and Schedule 1;

(*b*) regulation 2(5) of, and Schedule 2, in so far as they relate to paragraph 1(1)(*a*) to (*d*) and paragraph 2 of Part II of Schedule 1 to the principal regulations,

applies only in relation to a voucher accepted on or after 1st April 1988 pursuant to regulation 5 of the principal regulations or sent to a Board on or after that date pursuant to regulation 7(2)(*c*) of the principal regulations.

(2) Any such change effected by regulation 2(5) of, and Schedule 2, in so far as they relate to paragraph 1(1)(*e*) to (*g*) of Part II of Schedule 1 to the principal regulations, applies in relation to a voucher issued on or after 1st April 1988 pursuant to regulation 3 or regulation 4 of the principal regulations.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services on 16th March 1988.

(L.S.) *R. W. McQuiston*
Assistant Secretary

The Department of Finance and Personnel hereby approves the foregoing Regulations.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel on 16th March 1988.

(L.S.) *J. A. Mills*
Assistant Secretary