

2000 No. 57

**HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES**

**Charges for Drugs and Appliances (Amendment)  
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000**

*Made* . . . . . 6th March 2000

*Coming into operation* . . . . . 1st April 2000

The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety<sup>(a)</sup> in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 98 and 106 of, and Schedule 15 to, the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972<sup>(b)</sup> and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel, hereby makes the following Regulations:

*Citation, commencement and interpretation*

**1.**—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Charges for Drugs and Appliances (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000 and shall come into operation on 1st April 2000.

(2) In these Regulations, “the principal Regulations” means the Charges for Drugs and Appliances Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997<sup>(c)</sup>.

*Amendment of regulation 2 of the principal Regulations*

**2.** In regulation 2 (interpretation) for the definition of “prescription form”, substitute—

““prescription form” means a form provided by the Agency or a prescription form provided under equivalent arrangements having effect in England, Scotland or Wales, and issued by—

- (a) a doctor or dentist under the provisions of his terms of service; or
- (b) a doctor performing personal medical services or a dentist performing personal dental services in connection with a pilot scheme; or
- (c) a nurse subscriber,

to enable a person to obtain pharmaceutical services;”.

*Amendment of regulation 3 of the principal Regulations*

**3.** In regulation 3 (supply of drugs and appliances by chemists)—

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(a) See S.I. 1999/283 (N.I. 1) Article 3(6)  
(b) S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14); the relevant amending instruments are S.I. 1986/2229 (N.I. 24) Article 14, S.I. 1988/2249 (N.I. 24) Article 7 and S.I. 1991/194 (N.I. 1) Article 34 and Part II of Schedule 5  
(c) S.R. 1997 No. 382; the relevant amending instrument is S.R. 1999 No. 166

- (a) in paragraphs (1)(a), (b) and (3) for “£5.90” there shall be substituted “£6.00”; and
- (b) in paragraph (1)(a) for “£11.80” there shall be substituted “£12.00”.

*Amendment of regulation 4 of the principal Regulations*

- 4.** In regulation 4 (supply of drugs and appliances by doctors)—
- (a) in paragraphs (1)(a), (b) and (3) for “£5.90” there shall be substituted “£6.00”; and
  - (b) in paragraph (1)(a) for “£11.80” there shall be substituted “£12.00”.

*Amendment of regulation 5 of the principal Regulations*

- 5.** In regulation 5 (supply of drugs and appliances by a Board or an HSS trust)—
- (a) in paragraphs (1)(a), (d) and (3) for “£5.90” there shall be substituted “£6.00”; and
  - (b) in paragraphs (1)(a) and (c) for “£11.80” there shall be substituted “£12.00”.

*Amendment of regulation 7 of the principal Regulations*

- 6.** In regulation 7 (exemptions)—
- (a) in paragraph (1)(d) after “1976(a)” there shall be added “or with a valid exemption certificate issued under equivalent arrangements having effect in England, Scotland or Wales”; and
  - (b) in paragraph 1(g) after “certificate” there shall be added “or with a valid pre-payment certificate granted under equivalent arrangements having effect in England, Scotland or Wales”.

*Amendment of regulation 9 of the principal Regulations*

- 7.** In regulation 9(5) (pre-payment certificates) for “£30.80” there shall be substituted “£31.40” and for “£84.60” there shall be substituted “£86.20”.

*Amendment of Schedule 1 to the principal Regulations*

- 8.** For Schedule 1 there shall be substituted the following—

“SCHEDULE 1

**Charges for Fabric Supports and Wigs**

Column (1) <i>Specified Appliance</i>	Column (2) <i>Specified Charge</i>
Surgical Brassiere	£20-30
Abdominal or Spinal Support	£30-50
Stock Modacrylic Wig	£49-90
Partial Human Hair Wig	£131-50
Full Bespoke Human Hair Wig	£192-20”.

*Transitional provisions*

**9.** Where, on or after 1st April 2000—

- (a) any appliance specified in Schedule 1 to the principal Regulations is supplied pursuant to an order given before that date; or
- (b) any pre-payment certificate is granted under regulation 9 of the principal Regulations pursuant to an application under that Regulation which was received before that date,

the principal Regulations shall have effect in relation to that supply or, as the case may be, that grant, as if regulation 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8 of these Regulations had not come into operation.

*Revocation*

**10.** Regulation 2(3)(a) and (b), (4)(a) and (b), (5)(a) and (b), (7) and (8) of the Charges for Drugs and Appliances and Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 are hereby revoked(a).

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety on 6th March 2000.

(L.S.)

*D. A. Baker*  
A senior officer of the Department  
of Health, Social Services and  
Public Safety

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(a) S.R. 1999 No. 166

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

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel on 6th March 2000.

(L.S.)

*J. G. Sullivan*

A senior officer of the Department  
of Finance and Personnel

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations.)*

These Regulations amend the Charges for Drugs and Appliances Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 (“the principal Regulations”), which provide for the making and recovery of charges for drugs and appliances supplied by doctors and chemists providing pharmaceutical services, and by hospitals and HSS trusts to out-patients.

The charge for each item on prescription is increased from £5.90 to £6.00. The sums prescribed for the grant of pre-payment certificates of exemption from prescription charges are increased from £30.80 to £31.40 for a 4 month certificate and from £84.60 to £86.20 for a 12 month certificate.

The charge for elastic stockings is increased from £5.90 to £6.00 for each item (from £11.80 to £12.00 per pair) and for tights from £11.80 to £12.00.

The charge for a partial human hair wig is increased from £129.00 to £131.50, and for a stock modacrylic wig from £49.00 to £49.90. The charge for a full bespoke human hair wig is increased from £188.50 to £192.20. The charge for a surgical brassiere is increased from £19.95 to £20.30 and for an abdominal or spinal support from £29.95 to £30.50.

Transitional arrangements are made in respect of pre-payment certificates and appliances ordered before 1st April 2000 (regulation 9).

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