



National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990

1990 CHAPTER 19

PART I

THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE: ENGLAND AND WALES

Indicative amounts

18 Indicative amounts for doctors' practices

- (1) Subject to subsection (2) below, for each financial year, every Family Health Services Authority shall, by notice in writing given to each practice in relation to the members of which it is the relevant Family Health Services Authority, specify an amount of money (in this Act referred to as an “indicative amount”) representing the basic price of the drugs, medicines and listed appliances which, in the opinion of the Authority, it is reasonable to expect will be supplied in that year pursuant to orders given by or on behalf of the members of that practice.
- (2) Subsection (1) above does not apply with respect to a practice which is or forms part of a fund-holding practice recognised under section 14 above.
- (3) For the purposes of this section, a “practice” means—
 - (a) a single medical practitioner who practises otherwise than in partnership; or
 - (b) any two or more medical practitioners who practise in partnership;and any reference to the members of a practice shall be construed accordingly.
- (4) The members of a practice shall seek to secure that, except with the consent of the relevant Family Health Services Authority or for good cause, the orders for drugs, medicines and listed appliances given by them or on their behalf are such that the basic price of the items supplied pursuant to those orders in any financial year does not exceed the indicative amount notified to the practice for that year under subsection (1) above.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (5) For the purpose of measuring the extent to which a practice is operating within the indicative amount notified to it under subsection (1) above for any financial year, a Family Health Services Authority shall set against that indicative amount an amount equal to the basic price of the drugs, medicines and listed appliances supplied in that year pursuant to orders given by or on behalf of members of the practice.
- (6) For the purposes of this section, regulations may make provision as to the specification of, or means of calculating, the basic price of any drugs, medicines or listed appliances.
- (7) If, in the case of any practice, a member is on the medical list of a Health Board constituted under section 2 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978 (as well as on that of a Family Health Services Authority), any question whether this section applies in relation to the members of the practice shall be determined in accordance with regulations made by the Secretary of State; and any such regulations may modify the preceding provisions of this section in their application to such a practice.