

1973. No. 419

[C]

HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES**Charges for Drugs and Appliances**

REGULATIONS, DATED 27TH SEPTEMBER 1973, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE UNDER THE HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1972.

The Ministry of Health and Social Services (hereinafter referred to as "the Ministry") on behalf of the Secretary of State, and in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 98, 106 and 107 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(a) (hereinafter referred to as "the Order") and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf and with the approval of the Ministry of Finance hereby makes the following Regulations:—

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Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Health and Personal Social Services (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973 and shall come into operation on 1st October 1973.

(a) S.I. 1972, No. 1265 (N.I. 14).

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these regulations—

“the Agency” means the Northern Ireland Central Services Agency for the Health and Social Services established under Article 26 of the Order;

“Board” means a Health and Social Services Board established under Article 16 of the Order;

“chemist” means a person registered in the Register of the Pharmaceutical Chemists for Northern Ireland made out and maintained under section 9 of the Pharmacy and Poisons Act (Northern Ireland) 1925(b);

“doctor” means a registered person within the meaning of the Medical Acts 1956 to 1969;

“drugs” includes, in the case of persons receiving general medical services, medicines, oxygen and any prescribed chemical reagents;

“General Ophthalmic Regulations” means the Health and Personal Social Services (General Ophthalmic Services) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973(c);

“General Dental Regulations” means the Health and Personal Social Services (General Dental Services) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973(d);

“General Medical and Pharmaceutical Regulations” means the Health and Personal Social Services (General Medical and Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973(e);

“glasses” includes spectacles and lenses for spectacles;

“out-patient” means a patient receiving hospital services who is not for the time being resident in a hospital;

“Statement of Fees and Charges” means the Statement of Fees and Charges prepared under Regulation 5 of the General Ophthalmic Regulations;

“standard” as applied to an artificial limb, invalid chair, tricycle, or other appliance which the Board arranges to supply under the Order to a person needing such without requiring the payment by or on behalf of that person of any part of the cost;

“the Supplementary Benefits Act” means the Supplementary Benefits &c. Act (Northern Ireland) 1966(f);

“the Family Income Supplements Act” means the Family Income Supplements Act (Northern Ireland) 1971(g).

(2) For the purpose of these regulations the supply of quantities of the same drug in more than one container on an order on one form shall be deemed to be the supply of one quantity of a drug only and the supply on an order on one form of more than one appliance of the same type or the supply on an order on one form of two or more component parts of the same appliance shall be deemed to be the supply of one appliance, so however that any piece of elastic hosiery shall be deemed to be a separate appliance.

Supply of drugs and appliances by chemists

3.—(1) Subject to these Regulations, any person supplied in pursuance of Article 63 of the Order with drugs or appliances in accordance with an order given by a doctor under the General Medical and Pharmaceutical Regulations or by a dentist under the General Dental Services Regulations shall be liable to pay to the person supplying the goods a charge as follows—

(b) 15 & 16 Geo. 5 c. 8 (N.I.).

(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1973, No. 417.

(d) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1973, No. 418.

(e) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1973, No. 421.

(f) 1966. c. 28 (N.I.).

(g) 1971. c. 8 (N.I.).

- (a) in respect of an appliance specified in column 1 of Schedule 1 the sum specified in column 2 thereof in respect of that appliance; and
- (b) in any other case in respect of each quantity of a drug and each appliance not specified in Schedule 1 the sum of £0.20;

unless a declaration of entitlement to exemption duly completed in accordance with these Regulations is submitted.

(2) A chemist providing pharmaceutical services shall accordingly, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the terms of service contained in Schedule 4 to the General Medical and Pharmaceutical Regulations be under no obligation to supply drugs and appliances unless—

- (a) he is paid the charge specified in paragraph (1) of this Regulation; or
- (b) he is given a declaration of entitlement to exemption duly completed in accordance with these Regulations.

(3) Subject to these Regulations, the amount payable by the Agency under arrangements made under Schedule 15 of the Order to a person providing pharmaceutical services shall be reduced by the sum of £0.20 in respect of each quantity of a drug supplied on the order of a doctor or dentist and each appliance supplied on the order of a doctor in any case not falling within paragraph 2(b).

(4) Any chemist who receives any payment under these Regulations shall, if asked to do so at the time when the charge is paid, supply a receipt for any charge so received on a form which has been provided by the Agency for that purpose and contains forms of declaration in support of an application for refund.

Prescription forms

4. A doctor or dentist shall order drugs or appliances under the General Medical and Pharmaceutical Regulations or the General Dental Regulations (as the case may be) only on a form which has been provided for the purpose by the Agency and which contains on its reverse side (a) a form of declaration of exemption; and (b) a form of declaration of entitlement to exemption by or on behalf of a holder of a prepayment certificate and a chemist shall not supply pharmaceutical services except to a person who presents such a form.

Supply of drugs and appliances by doctors

5.—(1) Subject to these Regulations, any person supplied with drugs and appliances by a doctor in pursuance of paragraph 11(1)(c) of Schedule 1 to the General Medical and Pharmaceutical Regulations in accordance with the requirements of the Agency, or with any arrangements with the Agency under the said Regulations, shall be liable to pay to the doctor—

- (a) in respect of an appliance specified in column 1 of Schedule 1 to these regulations the sum specified in column 2 thereof in respect of that appliance; and
- (b) in any other case in respect of each quantity of a drug and each appliance not specified in Schedule 1 the sum of £0.20;

unless he declares that he is entitled to exemption under these Regulations.

(2) A doctor supplying drugs and appliances in accordance with the said requirements or arrangements shall accordingly, notwithstanding anything in the said paragraph 11(1)(c), be under no obligation to supply drugs and appliances unless—

- (a) he is paid the appropriate charge specified in paragraph (1); or

- (b) it has been declared to him that the person for whom he is supplying such drugs or appliances is entitled to exemption from paying charges under these Regulations.

(3) A doctor supplying drugs and appliances under the said paragraph 11(1)(c) shall collect any charges payable for those supplies under these Regulations and shall as soon as practicable after the end of each month send to the Agency a sum of money equal to the amount of such charges collected by him during that month.

(4) Any doctor who receives any payment under these Regulations shall, if asked to do so at the time when the charge is paid, supply a receipt for any charge so received on a form which has been provided by the Agency for that purpose and contains forms of declaration in support of an application for refund.

Prepayment certificates

6.—(1) Subject to the following provisions of this Regulation the Agency on payment of the prescribed sum shall as soon as reasonably practicable grant a certificate (in these Regulations referred to as a “prepayment certificate”) to any person who duly completes and submits an application therefor on a form provided for the purpose.

(2) A prepayment certificate shall be valid for a period of either six or twelve months and an application for such a certificate shall indicate the period for which it is required to be valid and shall be accompanied by the prescribed sum.

(3) A prepayment certificate shall confer on the person to whom it has been granted exemption from charges otherwise exigible under these Regulations in respect of the drugs and appliances not being appliances specified in Schedule 2 supplied to him during such period as is specified in the certificate as being its period of validity.

(4) For the purpose of this Regulation the prescribed sum shall be £2.00 for a prepayment certificate valid for six months and £3.50 for a prepayment certificate valid for twelve months.

(5) The payment of a prescribed sum under this Regulation shall not be deemed to be the payment of a charge under these Regulations.

(6) No prepayment certificate shall be issued unless the application therefor is received less than one month before the date on which its period of validity is to begin.

Supply of drugs and certain appliances to out-patients by hospitals

7.—(1) Subject to these Regulations, any out-patient of a hospital vested in the Ministry, who for the purposes of his treatment is supplied at the hospital with drugs (otherwise than for administration in the hospital) or certain appliances shall be liable to pay to the Board —

(a) in respect of an appliance specified in column 1 of Schedule 1 the sum specified in column 2 thereof in respect of that appliance; and

(b) in any other case in respect of each quantity of a drug supplied the sum of £0.20;

Provided that there shall not be a liability to pay any sum by a person suffering from venereal disease in respect of any drugs for the treatment of that disease.

(2) Any out-patient, except as provided in paragraph (1) above, of a hospital vested in the Ministry who for the purposes of his treatment is provided with an order form for the purpose of enabling him to obtain drugs or appliances from a chemist supplying such goods, shall be liable to pay to that chemist—

- (a) in respect of an appliance specified in column 1 of Schedule 1 the sum specified in column 2 thereof in respect of that appliance; and
- (b) in any other case in respect of each quantity of a drug supplied the sum of £0.20;

unless he submits a declaration of exemption duly completed in accordance with these Regulations.

(3) For the purposes of this Regulation only one sum of £0.20 shall be payable notwithstanding that the quantity of a drug supplied by a hospital or by a chemist on an order on one form is, by order of the prescriber, supplied on more than one day during a period of fourteen days.

(4) No exemption shall be granted by a Board unless the person claiming exemption from the obligation to make any payment under this Regulation provides such evidence or makes such declarations in writing that he is entitled to such exemption as that Board may reasonably require.

(5) A Board which receives any charges payable under these Regulations shall, if asked to do so, supply for any charge so received a receipt, which shall also contain forms of declaration in support of an application for refund.

Supply of appliances by hospitals to persons under 16 years

8. A charge shall not be made under these Regulations for the supply by a hospital vested in the Ministry of an appliance to a person who is under 16 years of age or who is in attendance at any school which is a grant-aided school for the purposes of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(h).

Supply of dentures or glasses to out-patients by hospitals

9.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Regulation, the Board shall make and recover a charge for glasses or dentures supplied by a hospital vested in the Ministry, at the rate as set out in schedule 4 of the General Ophthalmic Regulations and schedule 2 of the General Dental Regulations respectively.

(2) The replacement of dentures or glasses which is required solely by reason of the loss or destruction of, or damage sustained by, dentures or glasses previously possessed by the patient and supplied to him under the Order, shall be deemed not to constitute the supply of dentures or glasses within the meaning of this Regulation.

(3) No charge shall be made under this Regulation in respect of the supply of a denture where the person for whom the denture has been supplied is, on the date of the examination or first examination leading to the supply of the denture—

- (a) under 16 years of age, or receiving full-time education at any school which is a grant-aided school for the purposes of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1972;
- (b) an expectant mother or a mother who has borne a child within the previous twelve months;

(h) S.I. 1972, No. 1263 (N.I. 12).

if, in any such case, a declaration to that effect is made by or on behalf of that person in such form and manner as may be approved by the Ministry.

(4) This Regulation shall not apply to the supply of children's glasses where the standard type of children's frames as described in the Statement of Fees and Charges is used, or, glasses issued to children (as described in that Statement) for which frames other than the said standard type of children's frames are used solely on account of clinical reasons.

(5) No charge, which would otherwise be payable under this Regulation, shall be payable in respect of the supply (including the replacement) of a dental appliance as part of the services provided by a hospital vested in the Ministry to a person who has undergone operative procedures affecting the mandible, the maxilla or the soft tissues of the mouth as part of treatment for invasive tumours.

(6) No charge shall be made under this Regulation for the supply of lenses if—

- (a) the person for whom the glasses are supplied was, at the time of the testing of sight leading to the supply of glasses or the first such testing of sight, of the age of 10 or more and either under 16 years of age or receiving full-time education at any school which is a grant-aided school for the purpose of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1972; and
- (b) the frames of the glasses are of any description specified in the Statement of Fees and Charges.

(7) This Regulation shall not apply to the supply of dentures or glasses to a patient for the time being resident in a hospital vested in the Ministry.

(8) The charges imposed by this regulation shall be remitted so far as they relate to dentures provided at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, and the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children, Belfast, being dentures provided as part of a course of clinical dental teaching, carried on at the said hospitals by the Queen's University of Belfast

Supply of wigs and fabric supports to out-patients by hospitals

10.—(1) Any out-patient of a hospital vested in the Ministry who for the purposes of his treatment is supplied at the hospital with an appliance of a description specified in column 1 of Schedule 2 shall be liable to pay to the Board the sum specified in column 2 of that Schedule.

(2) No charge shall be payable under this Regulation by—

- (a) a person to whom the Secretary of State for Social Services has issued an exemption certificate in respect of treatment for accepted war disablement or, as the case may be, for accepted service disablement and who requires an appliance under this Regulation for the purpose of treatment of that disablement; or
- (b) a person who is receiving a supplementary pension or supplementary allowance under the Supplementary Benefits, &c. Act (Northern Ireland) 1966 or a dependant of such a person; or
- (c) a person who is receiving a family income supplement under the Family Income Supplements Act (Northern Ireland) 1971 or a dependant of such a person.

(3) A Board which receives any charge payable under these Regulations shall if asked to do so supply a receipt for any charge so received.

(4) Any person to whom paragraph (2) above applies may claim a refund of any charge he has paid by presenting to the Agency the receipt for such charge obtained from the Board and the provisions of Regulation 16(3) of these Regulations shall apply to any payment made under this paragraph.

Supply, replacement and repair of artificial limbs, invalid chairs or tricycles to out-patients by hospitals

11.—(1) Where an artificial limb, invalid chair or tricycle supplied under arrangements made by the Board is, at the request of the person supplied, of a more expensive type than the standard type, or where an artificial limb, invalid chair or tricycle which has been so supplied is repaired under those arrangements, the Board may charge and recover from the person so supplied or for whom such repair is undertaken a sum representing the difference between the cost of supplying or repairing such appliance and the cost of supplying or repairing an appliance of the corresponding standard type.

(2) An artificial limb, invalid chair or tricycle which, in the opinion of the surgeon or other person responsible for the case, is required by the person supplied owing solely to his clinical condition, or any repair of such, which is so required shall be supplied or repaired free of charge.

(3) Where an appliance consisting of an artificial limb, invalid chair or tricycle, supplied under arrangements made by the Board requires to be replaced or repaired, and the Board have reason to believe that such replacement or repair is necessitated by lack of care on the part of the person supplied, they may appoint a person or persons to investigate the matter.

(4) The person or persons so appointed shall make such inquiry into the matter as they think fit, and if in their opinion the circumstances so require or if the person concerned so demands the inquiry shall take the form of an oral hearing.

(5) The persons holding such inquiry shall report thereon to the Board who shall thereupon determine whether the replacement or repair is necessitated by lack of care on the part of the person supplied; provided that the Board may, if they think fit, delegate the responsibility for determining whether the replacement or repair is necessitated by lack of care on the part of the person supplied, to a committee of the Board.

The said committee may be appointed ad hoc or may be a standing committee appointed for the consideration of such questions.

(6) The Board may recover from the person concerned the whole or any part of the cost of replacement or repair of an appliance determined in the manner aforesaid to have been necessitated by lack of care on the part of such person.

Supply of appliances (other than artificial limbs, invalid chairs or tricycles) to out-patients by hospitals vested in the Ministry

12.—(1) Where any appliance (other than an artificial limb or invalid chair or tricycle) supplied by a hospital vested in the Ministry requires to be replaced or repaired the Board concerned may, if it thinks fit, refer to a committee appointed by them the question whether the replacement or repair is necessitated by lack of care on the part of the person so supplied. The said committee may be appointed ad hoc or may be a standing committee appointed for the consideration of such questions.

(2) On the receipt of such a reference the committee shall make such inquiry into the matter as they think fit, and if in their opinion the circumstances so require or if the person concerned so demands the inquiry shall take the form of an oral hearing.

(3) After the completion of such inquiry the committee shall report thereon to the Board who shall then determine whether the replacement or repair is necessitated by lack of care on the part of the person supplied.

(4) The Board may recover from the person concerned the whole or any part of the cost of the replacement or repair of an appliance determined in manner aforesaid to have been necessitated by lack of care on the part of such person.

Supply of appliances (other than artificial limbs invalid chairs or tricycles) to out-patients of hospitals (other than hospitals vested in the Ministry)

13.—(1) Where any appliance (other than an artificial limb, an invalid chair or a tricycle) supplied by a hospital (other than a hospital vested in the Ministry) under arrangements made by the Board requires to be replaced or repaired the Board may if it thinks fit, refer to a committee of the Board the question whether the replacement or repair is necessitated by lack of care on the part of the person so supplied. The said committee may be appointed ad hoc or may be a standing committee appointed for the consideration of such questions.

(2) The provisions of paragraphs (2), (3) and (4) of regulation 12 shall apply to the proceedings of the committee and to the action which may be taken on their report, as if those paragraphs had been included in this regulation, provided that the Board may, if it thinks fit, delegate to the committee referred to in paragraph (1) of this regulation the responsibility for determining whether the replacement or repair is necessitated by lack of care on the part of the person supplied.

Repair or replacement of glasses necessitated by lack of care on the part of the patient

14. For the purposes of regulations 12 and 13 any replacement or repair of glasses supplied by a hospital which is required by a person within a period of two years after the date on which they were supplied to him shall be presumed to be necessitated by lack of care on his part unless he satisfies the authority concerned that the replacement or repair is not so necessitated.

Exemptions

15.—(1) Subject to the following provisions no charge shall be payable under Regulations 3, 5 and 7 by—

- (a) a person who has not attained the age of 15 years; or
- (b) a person who has attained the age of 65 years;
- (c) a woman to whom the Agency has issued an exemption certificate on the ground that she is an expectant mother or a mother whose child is less than one year of age; or
- (d) a person to whom the Agency has issued an exemption certificate on the ground that he is suffering from one or more of the following conditions:—
 - (i) permanent fistula (including caecostomy, colostomy or ileostomy) requiring continuous surgical dressing or an appliance;

- (ii) the following endocrine disorders for which specific substitution therapy is essential:
 - diabetes mellitus
 - myxoedema
 - hypoparathyroidism
 - hypopituitarism
 - Addison's disease and other forms of hypoadrenalism
 - myasthenia gravis;
- (iii) epilepsy requiring continuous anti-convulsive therapy;
- (iv) a continuing physical disability which prevents the patient from leaving his residence except with the help of another person; or
- (e) a person to whom the Secretary of State for Social Services on behalf of the Ministry has issued an exemption certificate in respect of prescriptions for treatment of an accepted war disablement or, as the case may be, an accepted service disablement but only in respect of prescriptions to which the certificate relates; or
- (f) a person, and any dependant of that person, to whom the Ministry has issued an exemption certificate either—
 - (i) on the ground that he is receiving a supplementary pension or supplementary allowance under the Supplementary Benefits Act, or
 - (ii) on the ground that he has attained the age of 16 years and his requirements exceed his resources when calculated or estimated by the Ministry according to the provisions of paragraphs 3, 7 to 11, 13 and 15 to 29 of Schedule 2 to the Supplementary Benefits Act, subject to the following modifications—
 - (A) in sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 23 (which relates to the calculation of weekly earnings) for the expression "£1" there shall be substituted the expression "£2"; and
 - (B) his requirements shall be deemed to include also—
 - (1) charges under these regulations plus the sum of £0.30; and
 - (2) such amounts in respect of mortgage payments as the Ministry may allow; and
 - (3) such amounts in respect of hire purchase transactions as the Ministry may allow; and
 - (4) such further amounts as the Ministry may in special circumstances allow;
- and in considering what, if any, amount to include under either of the last two mentioned heads regard shall be had to the provisions made by the said paragraph 11 for additional requirements and regard may be had to any resources which would otherwise fall to be disregarded under paragraphs 23 to 26; and where by virtue of the said paragraph 3 the resources of the person would be aggregated with those of some other person, when calculated as aforesaid, shall be deemed to be the requirements and resources of the first-mentioned person, or
- (iii) on the ground that he is receiving a family income supplement under the Family Income Supplements Act (Northern Ireland) 1971; or
- (g) a person who has paid the prescribed sum and to whom the Agency has granted a prepayment certificate

(2) Where exemption is claimed under this regulation in respect of a charge payable to a chemist supplying a drug or appliance, a declaration of entitlement to exemption shall be duly completed by or on behalf of the claimant on the reverse side of the order form presented to the chemist.

(3) Where exemption is claimed under this regulation in respect of the supply of drugs or appliances by a doctor, a declaration of entitlement to exemption shall be made to that doctor and the doctor if he so desires, may require that declaration to be made in writing.

(4) Application for certificates under paragraph (1)(c) or (d) shall be made to the Agency on a form supplied for that purpose and signed by or on behalf of the applicant.

(5) The Agency shall issue a certificate under paragraph (1)(c) to any woman who satisfies them that she is entitled to it and such certificate shall have effect—

- (a) in the case of an expectant mother, during pregnancy and during either the period of one year beginning with the expected date of confinement or the life of the child of that pregnancy, whichever is the shorter;
- (b) in the case of a mother whose child is less than one year of age, during the period ending with the attainment by that child of that age or the life of that child, whichever is the shorter.

(6) The Agency shall issue a certificate under paragraph 1(d) to any person not falling within paragraph 1(a) or (b) who satisfies them that he is entitled to it, and such certificates shall have effect for such period as they may determine.

(7) Where a claim of entitlement to exemption has been made but is not substantiated and in consequence of that claim a chemist or doctor has not recovered a charge in respect of the supply of any drugs or appliances the Agency shall be entitled to recover such charge from the person concerned.

(8) Where an exemption certificate is declared to be valid for a period or subject to conditions, it shall have effect only during that period or so long as those conditions are complied with; and any claim for exemption by reference to age or the validity of a certificate shall be determined by reference to age or validity on the day on which any order for drugs or appliances is presented for dispensing, or, as the case may be, drugs or appliances are supplied by a doctor or Board.

(9)(a) Subject to the foregoing paragraphs, no charge shall be payable under regulation 10 by—

- (i) a person to whom the Secretary of State for Social Services has issued an exemption certificate in respect of treatment for accepted war disablement or, as the case may be, for accepted service disablement and who requires an appliance under this regulation for the purpose of treatment of that disablement; or
- (ii) a person who is receiving a supplementary pension or supplementary allowance under the Supplementary Benefits, &c. Act (Northern Ireland) 1966 or a dependant of such a person;
- (iii) a person who is receiving a family income supplement under the Family Income Supplements Act (Northern Ireland) 1971 or a dependant of such a person.

(b) Any person to whom paragraph (i) applies may claim a refund of any charge he has paid by presenting the receipt for such charge obtained from the hospital and the provision of regulation 16(3) shall apply to any payment made under this paragraph.

Refunds

16.—(1) Subject to these regulations, a person (whether or not entitled to exemption) shall be entitled to repayment of any charges paid by or in respect of him, in accordance with the provisions of regulations 3, 5 and 7, who was at the time the relevant charge was made—

- (a) a war disablement pensioner, in respect of any drug or appliance supplied for the treatment of his accepted war disablement;
- (b) a person in receipt of a supplementary pension or supplementary allowance under the Supplementary Benefits Act or a dependant of such person;
- (c) a person whose requirements exceed his resources when calculated or estimated in the manner specified in regulation 15(1)(f)(ii) or a dependant of such person;
- (d) any person entitled to exemption under regulations 15(1)(a) to (d);
- (e) a person entitled to exemption under regulation 15(1)(g);
- (f) a person in receipt of a family income supplement under the Family Income Supplements Act (Northern Ireland) 1971 or a dependant of such a person;

and this regulation shall apply to a person who has been supplied with elastic hosiery at a hospital.

(2) Any claim for a refund of charges shall be accompanied by the appropriate receipt, and the appropriate declaration in support of the claim shall be duly completed and signed by or on behalf of the claimant.

(3) Subject as aforesaid, any payment shall be made in such manner and subject to such conditions as the Ministry may determine, but no payment shall be made unless a claim is submitted within such period as the Ministry may determine. For the purpose of this regulation different periods may be determined for different claimants or categories of claimants, but the period shall in no case be less than one month from the date on which the charge was paid.

Summary recovery of charges

17. Any sum payable or recoverable under these regulations may, without prejudice to any other method of recovery, be recovered summarily as a civil debt.

Revocation

18. The Health Services (Charges for Appliances) (Hospitals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1948(i), the Health Services (Charges for Appliances) (Hospitals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1961(j), the Health Services (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1968(k), the Health Services (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1968(l), the Health Services (Charges for Appliances) (Hospitals) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1969(m), the Health Services (Charges) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1971(n), are hereby revoked.

(i) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1948, No. 310.
 (j) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1961, No. 120.
 (k) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1968, No. 138.

(l) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1968, No. 243.
 (m) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1969, No. 213.
 (n) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1971, No. 93.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Health and Social Services
for Northern Ireland this 27th day of September 1973.

(L.S.)

F. A. Elliott,
Assistant Secretary.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland
this 27th day of September 1973.

(L.S.)

C. F. Darling,
Assistant Secretary.

SCHEDULE 1

Charges for elastic hosiery

<i>Description</i> (1)	<i>Charges</i> (2)
Anklet, kneecap, knee legging, legging, thigh-kneecap, thigh legging or thigh piece	£0.25 each
Above-knee stocking, below-knee stocking or thigh stocking	£0.50 each

SCHEDULE 2

Charges for wigs and fabric supports

<i>Description</i> (1)	<i>Charges</i> (2)
Bespoke wig	£7.50 each
Stock wig	£2.50 each
Fabric support	£2.00 each

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Regulations consolidate with minor amendments the Health Services (Charges for Appliances) (Hospitals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1948, the Health Services (Charges for Appliances) (Hospitals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1961, the Health Services (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1968, the Health Services (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1968, the Health Services (Charges for Appliances) (Hospitals) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1969, and the Health Services (Charges) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1971. They detail the amounts of prescription charges for drugs and appliances supplied under the general medical and dental services, the charges due for appliances supplied to out-patients under the hospital services, the methods of claiming exemption from or refund of these charges, and the categories of persons eligible for exemption from or refund of these charges.