

For the purpose of this Part of this Schedule

- (i) the cost of a frame shall be deemed to be the sum specified in the statement of fees and charges prepared under Regulation 3 of the existing eye services regulations and for the time being in force as the sum payable therefor whether by the person supplied or by the Authority or by both of them or, in the case of frames of a description for which no sum is so specified, and which are considered by the Surgeon or other person prescribing the frame to be necessary solely for clinical reasons, the cost incurred by the Authority in supplying the frame;
- (ii) the cost incurred by the Authority in supplying lenses or frames shall be calculated in a manner to be determined by the Authority with the approval of the Ministry.

General Medical and Pharmaceutical Services

REGULATIONS, DATED 3RD MARCH, 1954, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNDER THE HEALTH SERVICES ACTS (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1948 TO 1953.

1954. No. 26

The Ministry of Health and Local Government for Northern Ireland, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Sections 6, 10 and 80 of the Health Services Act (Northern Ireland), 1948, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, and in conjunction with the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Health Services (General Medical and Pharmaceutical Services) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1954.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1921, shall apply for the purpose of the interpretation of these Regulations in like manner as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

2. The Health Services (General Medical and Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1948(a) as amended(b) shall be amended as follows:—

(1) For paragraph (4) of Regulation 17 there shall be substituted the following paragraph:—

“ (4) The Board, with the approval of the Ministry, may, subject to the provisions of paragraph 22 of Part I of the First Schedule to these Regulations make allowances to certain practitioners who have reached the age of 65 years or more.”

(a) S.R. & O. (Northern Ireland), 1948, No. 147.

(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1948, No. 260; S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1949, No. 143;
 S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1950, No. 128; S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1950, No. 160;
 S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1950, No. 223; S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1951, No. 62;
 S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1951, No. 113; S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1952, No. 19;
 S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1952, No. 110; S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1953, No. 47;
 S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1953, No. 39.

(2) For paragraph 22 of Part I of the First Schedule to the Regulations there shall be substituted the following paragraph:—

“ 22. (1) A practitioner may apply to the Board in such manner as the Board with the approval of the Ministry may require for an allowance under paragraph (4) of Regulation 17 of the Regulations provided that—

- (a) he is 65 years of age or more at the date of application;
- (b) he is actively and ordinarily engaged in a single-handed practice and indicates his intention of being so engaged during the year to which his application refers.

(2) Where the Board are satisfied that a practitioner fulfils the conditions referred to in the preceding sub-paragraph and such other conditions as the Ministry, after due notice to and consultation with the recognised professional organisation, may require to be fulfilled they may, subject to the approval of the Ministry, make such payments to him as are in accordance with the provisions of the next succeeding sub-paragraph.

(3) Any allowance granted under the provisions of this paragraph shall be at the yearly rate of—

- (a) £350 less a sum calculated at the rate of nine shillings for each person, if any, on the practitioner's list in excess of 500 at the commencement of the period in respect of which the application is made; or
- (b) the sum required to raise the practitioner's gross income from all professional sources for the year in respect of which the application is made to such figure not exceeding £1,250 as the Ministry may determine,

whichever is the less, and shall be effective from the beginning of the quarter next following the date of application.

(4) A practitioner whose application has been granted shall as soon as may be submit to the Board in such form as the Board with the approval of the Ministry may determine a statement of his income from all professional sources for the year in respect of which the application has been made, certified by a practising professional accountant or by the Inspector of Taxes to whom his income tax returns in respect of the practice have been submitted.

(5) Payments made in accordance with this paragraph shall be subject to adjustment or withdrawal by the Board on examination of or in the absence of any such certified statement as is referred to in the preceding sub-paragraph. The Board shall have power without prejudice to other means of recovery to give effect to any adjustment or withdrawal by means of deduction from the remuneration due to a practitioner at any time.

(6) Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-paragraph (3) of this paragraph an allowance may be granted in respect of the year beginning on the 1st April, 1953, irrespective of the date upon which the application is made. An application in respect of such year shall not, however, be accepted by the Board after the 30th June, 1954, unless in exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the Ministry.

(7) The continuance of any allowance granted under this paragraph will be conditional on the practitioner submitting an application to the Board each year and on the Board being satisfied that the practitioner is continuing to be ordinarily and actively engaged in single-handed practice.

(8) Applications for the allowance shall be made at such times in relation to the year in respect of which they are made as the Board may require.

(9) A practitioner who is dissatisfied with a decision of the Board to refuse his application or to discontinue an allowance which has been granted may appeal in writing to the Ministry within one calendar month from the date of issue by the Board of notification thereof. The Ministry shall, where necessary, consult with the recognised professional organisation and shall give its decision which shall be final."

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Health and Local Government for Northern Ireland this third day of March, 1954, in the presence of

(L.S.)

W. McCaughey,
Assistant Secretary.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland this third day of March, 1954, in the presence of

(L.S.)

D. C. B. Holden,
Assistant Secretary.