## STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

# 2000 No. 3029

# NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, ENGLAND

# The National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2000

Made	9th November 2000
Laid before Parliament	10th November 2000
Coming into force	1st December 2000

The Secretary of State for Health, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by sections 78(1) and 126(4) of, and paragraph 2A of Schedule 12 to, the National Health Service Act  $1977(\mathbf{a})$  and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations.

#### Citation, commencement, interpretation and extent

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2000, and shall come into force on 1st December 2000.

(2) In these Regulations "the principal Regulations" means the National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) Regulations 1997(b).

(3) These Regulations extend to England only.

### Amendment of regulation 1 of the principal Regulations

**2.** In paragraph (2) of regulation 1 of the principal Regulations (interpretation), in the definition of "NHS sight test fee", for the amount "£41.54" substitute "£42.79" and for the amount "£15.01" substitute "£15.46".

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Health

9th November 2000

Hunt Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department of Health

<sup>(</sup>a) 1977 c. 49: see section 128(1), as amended by the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990 (c. 19) ("the 1990 Act"), section 26(2)(g) and (i) for the definitions of "prescribed" and "regulations". Section 126(4) was amended by the 1990 Act, section 65(2), and by the Health Act 1999 (c. 8), Schedule 4 paragraph 37(5). Paragraph 2A of Schedule 12 was inserted by the Health and Social Security Act 1984 (c. 48), Schedule 1, Part I, paragraph 3 and amended by section 13(2) and (3) of the Health and Medicines Act 1988 (c. 49). The functions of the Secretary of State under the National Health Service Act 1977 are, so far as exercisable in relation to Wales, transferred to the National Assembly for Wales under the National Assembly for Wales (5) of the Health Act 1999.

<sup>(</sup>b) S.I. 1997/818 the relevant amending instruments are S.I. 1997/2488, 1999/609 and 2000/594.

# **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

## (This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations further amend the National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) Regulations 1997 ("the principal Regulations") which provide for payments to be made by means of a voucher system in respect of costs incurred by certain categories of persons in connection with sight tests and the supply, replacement and repair of optical appliances.

Regulation 2 amends the definition of "NHS sight test fee" in regulation 1(2) of the principal Regulation to reflect the values of the two levels of fees for National Health Service sight tests payable to ophthalmic medical practitioners and opticians. These amounts are relevant to the determination of eligibility for, and the redemption value of, a voucher towards the cost of a sight test.

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