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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These Regulations amend the National Health Service (Dental Charges) Regulations 2005 (the 2005 Regulations) and the National Health Service (Charges for Drugs and Appliances) Regulations 2015 (the 2015 Regulations).

The 2005 Regulations include the charges that are levied for NHS dental and orthodontic treatment in England. Regulation 2 amends the 2005 Regulations to increase the charges for Band 1 courses of treatment from £19.70 to £20.60, Band 2 courses of treatment from £53.90 to £56.30 and Band 3 courses of treatment from £233.70 to £244.30. Band 1A charges in respect of interim care courses of treatment provided by contractors participating in the Prototype Agreement Scheme, scheduled to run from 1st November 2015 to 31st March 2018, are also increased from £19.70 to £20.60, in line with the Band 1 charge.

The 2015 Regulations include the charges that are payable for the supply of NHS drugs and appliances in England. Regulation 3 amends regulations 3 to 9 of the 2015 Regulations to increase the prescription charge applied for the supply of drugs, appliances and elastic hosiery from £8.40 to £8.60, which is a 2.38% increase. There are also increases to the charges for wigs and fabric supports of around 1.8%.

Regulation 4 makes transitional provision in relation to fabric supports and wigs supplied pursuant to NHS prescriptions before 1st April 2017.