

GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES (STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ENTITLEMENTS) AMENDMENT DIRECTIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2007.

The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety^(a), in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Article 57C and 107(6) of the Health and Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972^(b), and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, after consulting in accordance with Article 57C(4) of the Order with the bodies, appearing to it to be representative of persons to whose remuneration these directions relate and with the consent of the Department of Finance and Personnel gives the directions set out in this instrument.

Citation and commencement

1. – (1) These Directions may be cited as the General Medical Services (Statement of Financial Entitlements) Amendment Directions (Northern Ireland) 2007.

(2) These Directions are dated 27 April 2007 but shall have effect as from 1st April 2006.

Amendments to the Statement of Financial Entitlements NI – 3rd Edition

2. – (1) The directions given in the Statement of Financial Entitlements NI – 3rd Edition (“the SFE”) which were given on behalf of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety on 28 April 2006, are amended as follows.

(2) For Part 3 – Directed Enhanced Services, Section 8A – Long-Term Condition Management Scheme there shall be substituted,

“8A. Long-Term Condition Management Scheme

8A.1 Direction 3(1) of the Primary Medical Services (Directed Enhanced Services) Directions (Northern Ireland) 2006, known as the DES Directions, requires each Board to establish, operate and, as appropriate, revise a Long-Term Condition Management Scheme for its area, the underlying purpose of which is to improve the long-term health and well being of patients in its area-

- (a) who have chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD);
- (b) who have asthma;
- (c) who have a Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 30 who are likely to develop morbidity such as diabetes mellitus.

^(a) See S.I. 1999/283 (N.I. 1) – Article 3(6)

^(b) 1972 No. 1265 (N.I. 14). Article 57C was inserted by Article 4 of the Primary Medical Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

8A.2 As part of its Long-Term Condition Management Scheme, a Board may, in the 2006/07 financial year, offer to enter into arrangements with primary medical services contractors in its area. However, before entering into such arrangements, the Board must satisfy itself of the matters set out in direction 3(2)(a) and (b) of the DES Directions.

8A.3 Any agreed arrangements that the Board enters into, or has entered into, with a particular contractor must cover the matters set out in direction 6(1)(a) to (i).

Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Set-Up Payments

8A.4 If, as part of a GMS contract, a contractor and a Board have agreed arrangements for participation in the Long-Term Condition Management Scheme which relates to the 2006/07 financial year, the Board must in that financial year, pay to the contractor under its GMS contract, a Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Set-Up Payment of £3,825 multiplied by the Contractor's CPI. This amount falls due (but may be paid sooner) on the first date after the arrangements are agreed on which one of the contractor's Payable GMSPs falls due.

Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Achievement Payments

8A.5 If, as part of a GMS contract, a contractor and a Board have agreed arrangements for participation in the Long-Term Condition Management Scheme which relates to the 2006/07 financial year, the Board must in respect of that financial year, pay to the contractor under its GMS contract, a Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Achievement Payment, if in the reasonable opinion of the Board, the contractor has fulfilled its obligations under the agreed arrangements.

8A.6 An Achievement Payment will be made for each clinical domain within the Long-Term Condition Management Scheme however, should the contractor not achieve the Lower Payment Amount threshold of Target Achievement in one or more of the clinical domains – except in the circumstances outlined below, no Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Achievement Payment will be due.

In circumstances where a contractor fails to meet the minimum level of achievement in respect of the Asthma clinical domain **only**, and the conditions contained within paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of Part 2 of the Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Directed Enhanced Service Specification (Practice based service for patients with Asthma) have been fulfilled, the Lower Rate Payment amount may be paid.

8A.7 For the Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Achievement Payment the Board will need to calculate which, if any, target (Payment Stage) has been achieved by 31 March 2007. To do this, the contractor will need to provide the Board

with the number of patients in each clinical domain for whom it has completed the actions required by the Long-Term Condition Management Scheme service specification and arrangements agreed with Board **(A)** and the number of patients in each clinical domain it is under a contractual obligation to include in the appropriate disease register of the Quality and Outcomes Framework **(B)** on the last day of the financial year in respect of which the contractor is seeking payment. The Board will then need to make the following calculation-

$$\frac{A}{B} \times 100 = \text{Target Achievement (\%)}$$

(A) will be extracted from the Directed Enhanced Services data collection returns and **(B)** will be extracted from the QOF data extract.

8A.8 Once the Board has established the percentage Target Achievement in each of the clinical domains, it should then use tables (a) to (c) below to determine the appropriate payment amount for each clinical domain. The resulting Payment Amount should be multiplied by the contractor's Adjusted Practice Disease Factor for each disease area in order to obtain the contractor's Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Achievement Payment for each clinical domain:

(a) for patients who have chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD);

	Lower	Middle	Full
Target Achievement	70 – 79%	80 – 89%	90% and above
Payment Amount	£2,730	£4,095	£5,460

(b) for patients who have asthma;

	Lower	Middle	Full
Target Achievement	60 – 69%	70 – 79%	80% and above
Payment Amount	£1,640	£2,460	£3,280

(c) for patients who have a Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 30 who are likely to develop morbidity such as diabetes mellitus;

	Lower	Middle	Full
Target Achievement	10 – 24%	25 – 39%	40%
Payment Amount	£1,090	£1,640	£2,185

In circumstances where a contractor fails to meet the minimum level of achievement in respect of the Asthma clinical domain **only**, and the conditions contained within paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of Part 2 of the Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Directed Enhanced Service Specification (Practice based service for patients with Asthma) have been fulfilled, the Lower Rate Payment amount may be paid.

8A.9 The cash totals produced for each clinical domain under paragraph 8A.8 are then added together and multiplied by the contractor's CPI, calculated in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2.18 –

- (a.) at the start of the final quarter of the financial year to which the Achievement Payment relates;
- (b.) if its contract takes effect after the start of the final quarter of the financial year to which the Achievement Payment relates on the date its GMS contract takes effect, or
- (c.) if its GMS contract has been terminated, its CPI in respect of the quarter during which its GMS contract was terminated.

8A.10 From this interim total, the Board needs to subtract the total value of the Long-Term Condition Management Set-Up Payment made to that contractor under its GMS contract in the financial year to which the Achievement Payment relates. The resulting amount (unless it is a negative amount or zero, in which case no Achievement Payment is payable) is the contractor's Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Achievement Payment for that financial year.

8A.11 The payment is to be treated for accounting and superannuation purposes as gross income of the contractor in that financial year but is to fall due at the end of the first month in the next financial year.

8A.12 Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Achievement Payments, or any part thereof, are only payable if the contractor satisfies the Long-Term Condition Management Scheme service specification and the following conditions-

- (a) the contractor must make available to the Board, any information which the Board does not have but needs, and the contractor either has or could reasonably be expected to obtain, in order to form its opinion on whether the contractor has fulfilled its obligations under the agreed arrangements;
- (b) the contractor must make any returns required of it (whether computerised or otherwise) and do so promptly and fully; and

- (c) all information supplied pursuant to or in accordance with this paragraph must be accurate.

8A.13 If the contractor breaches any of these conditions, the Board may, in appropriate circumstances, withhold payment of any, or any part, of a Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Achievement Payment that is otherwise payable.

Deduction for not achieving the Lower Payment Amount threshold of Target Achievement in one or more of the clinical domains

8A.14 It is also a condition of every contractor's participation in the Long-Term Condition Management Scheme that it achieves the Lower Payment Amount threshold under Target Achievement in all three of the clinical domains, unless the conditions contained within paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of Part 2 of the Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Directed Enhanced Service Specification (Practice based service for patients with Asthma) have been fulfilled (in relation to the asthma clinical domain **only**). If it breaches this condition, the Board must recover the amount it paid the contractor as a Long-Term Condition Management Scheme Set-Up Payment."

- (3) In Section 8B – Pneumococcal vaccination and Hib/Men C vaccination, for "8A", at each place it occurs, substitute "8B".

Mrs C Jendoubi

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27th April 2007