



National Health Service in Scotland  
Management Executive

St. Andrew's House  
Edinburgh EH1 3DG

Dear Colleague

**HOSPITAL EYE SERVICE: CHANGE IN  
ARRANGEMENTS WITH EFFECT FROM 1 APRIL 1995**

**Summary**

1. This Circular details the changes to the arrangements for the Hospital Eye Service as a result of amendment Regulations which come into force on 1 April 1995. The Regulations are the National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) (Scotland) Amendment (No 2) Regulations 1995.

2. The Amendment Regulations increase spectacle voucher values and the allowance for repairs and replacements.

**Action**

1. The new amounts are shown in the Annexes to this Circular. The revised values will apply to vouchers accepted by suppliers for spectacle purchases made on or after 1 April 1995.

2. Any enquiries about the content of this Circular should be addressed to Mr D Ellams, Room 54D2, St Andrew's House (Tel: 0131-244 2506).

Yours sincerely

DAVID J PALMER  
Deputy Director of Finance

2 / April 1995

NHS MEL 1994(34) is cancelled

**Addressees**

For action:

General Managers,  
Health Boards

Chief Executives,  
NHS Trusts

For information:

General Managers,  
Common Services Agency

General Manager,  
State Hospital

General Manager,  
Health Education Board  
for Scotland

To be copied to:  
Unit General Managers  
for action

**Enquiries to:**

Miss K Russell  
Room 54D2  
St Andrew's House  
EDINBURGH  
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Tel: 0131-244 2506

COMMON SERVICES AGENCY	
RECEIVED:	
19 APR 1995	
FILE No.	
REFERRED TO	ACTION TAKEN

## VOUCHER SPECIFICATIONS AND VALUES FROM 1 APRIL 1995

	Type of optical appliance	Letter Code	Voucher Value
1.	Glasses with single vision lenses -	A	£26.40
	a. of a spherical power of not more than 6 dioptries with a cylindrical power of not more than 2 dioptries;		
	b. of a spherical power of not more than 2 dioptries with a cylindrical power of more than 2 dioptries and not more than 4 dioptries;		
2.	Glasses with single vision lenses -	B	£40.10
	a. of a spherical power of more than 2 dioptries but not more than 6 dioptries with a cylindrical power of more than 2 dioptries but not more than 4 dioptries;		
	b. of a spherical power of more than 6 dioptries but less than 10 dioptries with a cylindrical power of not more than 2 dioptries.		
3.	Glasses with single vision lenses -	C	£54.70
	a. of a spherical power of 10 or more dioptries but not more than 20 dioptries with a cylindrical power of not more than 6 dioptries;		
	b. of a spherical power of not more than 10 dioptries with a cylindrical power of more than 4 dioptries but not more than 6 dioptries;		
	c. of a spherical power of more than 6 dioptries but less than 10 dioptries with a cylindrical power of more than 2 dioptries but not more than 4 dioptries.		
4.	Glasses with single vision lenses -	D	£107.30
	a. of a spherical power of more than 20 dioptries with any cylindrical power;		

- b. of a spherical power of not more than 20 dioptries with a cylindrical power of more than 6 dioptries.
5. Glasses with bifocal lenses - E £45.50
- a. of a spherical power of not more than 6 dioptries with a cylindrical power of not more than 2 dioptries;
- b. of a spherical power of not more than 2 dioptries with a cylindrical power of more than 2 dioptries and not more than 4 dioptries.
6. Glasses with bifocal lenses - F £57.90
- a. of a spherical power of more than 6 dioptries but less than 10 dioptries with a cylindrical power of not more than 2 dioptries;
- b. of a spherical power of more than 2 dioptries but not more than 6 dioptries with a cylindrical power of more than 2 dioptries but not more than 4 dioptries.
7. Glasses with bifocal lenses - G £69.80
- a. of a spherical power of 10 or more dioptries but not more than 14 dioptries with a cylindrical power of not more than 6 dioptries;
- b. of a spherical power of not more than 10 dioptries with a cylindrical power of more than 4 dioptries but not more than 6 dioptries.
- c. of a spherical power of more than 6 dioptries but less than 10 dioptries with a cylindrical power of more than 2 dioptries but not more than 4 dioptries.
8. Glasses with prism-controlled bifocal lenses of any power or with bifocal lenses - H £118.00
- a. of a spherical power of more than 14 dioptries with any cylindrical power;
- b. of a spherical power of not more than 14 dioptries with a cylindrical power of more than 6 dioptries

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|-----|--|---|----------------------|
| 9.  | Glasses not falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 8 for which a prescription is given in consequence of a testing of sight by a health board or a NHS trust. | I | £118.00              |
| 10. | Contact lenses for which a prescription is given in consequence of a testing of sight by a health board or a NHS trust.                                      | J | £38.60<br>(per lens) |

Complex Appliance Supplement

Single Vision	£4.30
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Bifocal	£23.40
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Tints per Lens

Single Vision	£2.60
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Bifocal	£3.10
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Prisms per Lens

Single Vision	£5.10
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Bifocal	£6.30
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Photochromic per lens (Hospital Eye Service or NHS Trust)

Single Vision	£2.60
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Bifocal	£3.10
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Small Frame Supplement over and above the basic voucher value	£43.50
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Supplement for Special Facial Characteristics (Hospital Eye Service or NHS Trust).	£43.50
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## REVISED VOUCHER VALUES FOR REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT

Nature of repair to appliance	Letter	Codes	Values					
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H&I
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Repair or replacement of one lens	8.20	15.10	22.40	48.70	17.80	24.00	29.90	54.00
Repair or replacement of 2 lenses	16.50	30.20	44.80	97.40	35.60	48.00	59.90	108.10
Repair or replacement of:								
the front of a frame	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50
the side of a frame	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
the whole frame	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90	9.90
Maximum	26.40	40.10	54.70	107.30	45.50	57.90	69.80	118.00

## Note:

1. Where the small frame supplement or special facial characteristics supplement applies, the amount payable for repair of:

the front of the frame is	£38.60
the side of the frame is	£20.90
the whole of the frame is	£43.50

2. Where more than one repair is made to an optical appliance the total paid must not exceed the aggregate amounts for replacing 2 lenses in the above schedule and repairs to parts of the frame must not exceed £9.90.

Replacement - contact lenses

3. If only one of a pair of contact lenses is replaced the voucher value is £38.60. These provisions for contact lenses only apply to clinically necessary contact lenses prescribed by the HES or NHS Trust.

## DIRECTION

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by paragraph 2(1) of schedule 11 to the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978<sup>(i)</sup> and regulation 2(1) of the National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 1989<sup>(ii)</sup> and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby gives to Health Boards and NHS trusts constituted under the said Act of 1978 the following Direction:

1. This Direction shall come into force on 1 April 1995 and shall have effect in respect of glasses or contact lenses supplied where the testing of sight leading to the supply of the glasses or lenses, or the first such testing, takes place on or after 1 April 1995.

2. In this Direction -

"the Act" means the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978;

"charge for glasses" and "charge for contact lenses" means a charge authorised by section 70(1) of the Act in respect of the supply of glasses or, as the case may be, contact lenses under the Act.

3. Subject to paragraphs 4 and 5 below, the charge for glasses shall be the aggregate of the following:

(a) an amount which represents the cost to the Health Board, NHS trust, or other person on its behalf, of the purchase of the glasses or their components; and

(b) an amount which represents the cost to the Health Board, NHS trust, or other person on its behalf, of the dispensing of the lenses.

4. Where the aggregate of:-

(a) the element of the amount mentioned in paragraph 3(a) above which represents the cost of the lenses; and

(b) the amount mentioned in paragraph 3(b) above, exceeds, in the case of glasses each lens of which is a single vision lens, £47.30 and, in any other case, £76.90 the charge for glasses shall be the aggregate of that £47.30 or, as the case may be, £76.90 and, except in a case to which paragraph 5 below applies, the element of the amount mentioned in paragraph 3(a) above which represents the cost of the frames.

5. Where any patient requires, on clinical grounds, a frame the cost of which is more than that of the cheapest frame in the range supplied by

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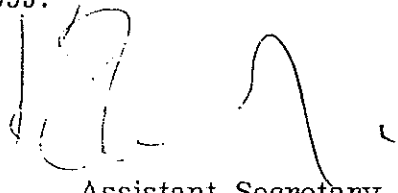
(i) 1978 c.29; paragraph 2(1) was substituted by the Health and Medicines Act 1988 (c.49) Schedule 2, paragraph 15(1)

(ii) SI 1989/392

the Health Board, NHS trust, or other person on its behalf, the element of the amount mentioned in paragraph 3(a) above which represents the cost of the frames shall not exceed the cost of the cheapest frame.

6. The charge authorised by section 70(1) of the Act in respect of the supply of contact lenses under the Act shall be £38.60 for each contact lens so supplied.

7. Except insofar as it applies to glasses and contact lenses supplied where the testing of sight leading to the supply of the glasses or contact lenses, or the first such testing, has taken place prior to 1 April 1995, the Direction made under paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 11 to the Act and regulation 2(1) of the National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) (Scotland) Regulations 1989 which came into operation on 1 April 1994 is revoked with effect from 1 April 1995.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. A. ...', written over the printed name 'Assistant Secretary'.

The Scottish Office Home and Health Department  
St Andrew's House  
EDINBURGH  
14 March 1995

Assistant Secretary