



Department of Health

Medicines, Pharmacy
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David Hewlett
Optometric Fees Negotiating Committee
2 Woodbridge Street
London
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Dear David,

GOS Fees 2014-15

I am writing to you about the sight test and continuing education and training fees and the pre-registration trainers grant for 2014/15 following the discussions you had with NHS England.

A 1% increase is proposed for each of these fees. I enclose draft payment directions which include the proposed new sight test fee for consultation.

On the sight test fee, a 1% increase on the current fee of £20.90 would make the fee £21.10.

For domiciliary sight tests the additional fees become:

£37.19 for the first and second; and

£9.31 for the third and subsequent.

The new sight test fee and pre-registration trainers grant will be with effect from 1 April.

For the continuing education and training payment and the grant to supervisors of pre-registration trainees increases of 1% would mean that the CET payment would be £521 and the supervisors grant £3,359.

The continuing education payment will be for CET undertaken in 2013 and, I anticipate, claimable in a window from 1 July to 31 October (which I think was the case last year). Separate directions will be issued for the continuing education and training grant.

You also put forward a proposal for NHS capital investment in eye care. NHS England are happy to advise on the format and scope of the business case, so that you have the opportunity to develop and improve the case to enable it to be considered alongside all other calls on the capital budget for 2015/16. NHS England colleagues will also take forward the issue you raised about the use of the NHS logo.

I look forward to hearing from you on the draft payment directions.

Yours sincerely

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