



Department  
of Health

Dental & Eye Care Services  
Legislation and Policy Unit  
Richmond House  
79 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2NS

Ann Blackmore  
Optometric Fees Negotiating Committee  
2 Woodbridge Street  
London  
EC1R 0DG

24 June 2015

Dear Ann,

### **GOS Fees 2015-16**

I am writing to you about the sight test and continuing education and training fees and the pre-registration trainers grant for 2015/16 following the discussions you had with NHS England. A 1% increase is proposed for each of these fees. I enclose draft payment directions which cover both the proposed new sight test fee and fee claimable for CET, for consultation. The drafts are subject to final legal checks and may be subject to minor drafting amendments.

On the sight test fee, a 1% increase on the current fee of £21.10 would make the fee £21.30. For domiciliary sight tests the additional fees become:

£37.60 for the first and second; and  
£9.40 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 £535 and the supervisors grant £3,445.

The continuing education payment will be for CET undertaken in 2014 and claimable in a window from 1 August to 30 November.

As part of the negotiations on the above fees, you also put forward a proposal to NHS England in respect of capital funding for improved IT for optical practices. I understand that NHS England will be considering this proposal separately.

Grateful if you could respond on the draft payment directions by close on Tuesday 7 July.

Yours sincerely

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