
DIRECTIONS

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, ENGLAND

The National Health Service (Charges for Optical Appliances) Determination 2012

The Secretary of State for Health makes the following determination, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 179(2) and (3), 272(7) and (8) and 273(1) of the National Health Service Act 2006(a).

Citation and commencement

1. This Determination may be cited as the National Health Service (Charges for Optical Appliances) Determination 2012, and comes into force on 1st April 2012.

Interpretation

2. In this Determination—

“actual cost of lenses” means the amount equal to the cost to the Primary Care Trust, the NHS trust or to other persons acting on behalf of the Primary Care trust or NHS trust of the purchase of the lenses;

“dispensing cost” means the amount equal to the cost to the Primary Care Trust, the NHS trust or to other persons acting on behalf of the Primary Care Trust or NHS trust for dispensing the lenses; and

“full cost of a frame” means the amount equal to the cost to the Primary Care Trust, the NHS trust or to other persons acting on behalf of the Primary Care Trust or NHS trust of the purchase of, in the case of —

- (a) an adult, an adult’s frame; and
- (b) a child, a child’s frame.

Application

3. This determination applies in respect of the supply of the optical appliances supplied by a Primary Care Trust, NHS trust or by other persons acting on behalf of the Primary Care Trust or NHS trust, for the purposes of regulation 2(1) of the National Health Service (Optical Charges and Payments) Regulations 1997(b).

Maximum amount of charge for lenses

4. In this determination the maximum amount of a charge for lenses (“maximum charge”) means an amount equal to, in the case of—

- (a) a single vision lens, £66.60; or
- (b) all other lenses, £108.30,

(a) 2006 c.41. By virtue of section 271(1) of the Act, the powers conferred by these sections are exercisable by the Secretary of State only in relation to England.

(b) S.I. 1997/818; relevant amending instruments are S.I. 2004/696 and 2009/1824.

and “appropriate maximum charge” shall be construed accordingly.

Charge for glasses

5.—(1) The amount of charge payable in respect of the supply of glasses is determined in accordance with the following provisions.

(2) Subject to determination (4), where the actual cost of the lenses and the dispensing cost is together less than an amount equal to the appropriate maximum charge, the charge payable is an amount equal to the total amount of—

- (a) the actual cost of lenses;
- (b) the dispensing cost; and
- (c) the full cost of the frame.

(3) Where the actual cost of the lenses and the dispensing cost is together equal or greater than the appropriate maximum charge, the charge payable is an amount equal to the total amount of—

- (a) the appropriate maximum charge; and
- (b) the full cost of the frame.

(4) In the case where it is clinically necessary to supply a frame the cost of which is more than the cheapest full cost of a frame in an adult or child’s range supplied by the Primary Care Trust, the NHS trust or by other persons acting on behalf of the Primary Care Trust or NHS trust, the charge payable for the frame is an amount which must be equal to the cost of the cheapest full cost of a frame in the range supplied.

Charge for a contact lens

6. The charge for one contact lens is £54.20.

Transitional

7. Determinations 4 to 6 only apply in respect of the supply of glasses or contact lenses where the testing of sight which resulted in the requirement to supply glasses or contact lenses takes place on or after 1st April 2012.

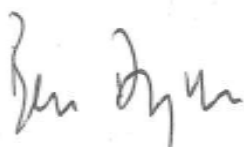
Revocation

8. The 2009 Directions signed by David Lye which came into force on the 1st April 2009 are revoked(a).

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State

A Member of the Senior Civil Service

Signed by Ben Dyson



Date 30th March 2012

Department of Health

(a) A copy is published on www.dh.gov.uk